China weekly Review

密勒氏評論報

Relief & Welfare

TUNG PI-WU'S REPORT

— a full text

"THE KID MANAGER"

a story by CHAO SHU-LI

"K'AI HUI" AT SUN YAT-SEN

WANG TSUNG-YEN

EDITORIALS:

CHENNAULT'S CASE
CHINA LOSES A FRIEND

MAY 20, 1950 **JMP 4,000**

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LETTERS From The People

Comments from readers on current topics are cordially invited: their opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the views of the China Weekly Review.

LOSS OF A FRIEND

To the Editor:

The death of Miss Smedley in her exile at Oxford is sharp comment on the "democratic" and "free" atmosphere in the United States.

While regretting the loss of a fellow advocate of peace and one of our best friends, we feel a little comfort to think that New China did not fail the deceased, in that our country has achieved her national liberation and secured an initial success in her revolution and rebirth. We are glad that she knew our country has embarked on the road of peaceful construction.

The truth-searching, anti-fascist spirit of Agnes Smedley has taught the oppressed a great deal. Her invaluable contribution to the world in interpreting changing China in true colors has inspired millions of people—and will continue to awaken hundreds of millions—to press toward the bright, happy goal in her mind and ours.

I am confident that all Miss Smedley's fellow countrymen, except for a handful of man-eaters and warmongers, will gladly tread in her footsteps in the not distant future.

MAN IN THE STREET

Shanghai
May 12, 1950.

PEACE CAMPAIGN

To the Editor:

The following is a translation of a New China News Agency dispatch appearing in the local Hsin Hua Jih Pao May 1, 1950.

* * *

The China Council of the Organization for Safeguarding World Peace issued the following circular notice today [April 28, 1950]:

To all peace-loving fellow countrymen and fellow countrywomen throughout China:

The Standing Committee of the Peace-Supporting Organization of the World called upon all the peace-loving peoples of the world to affix their signatures on a written appeal which calls for the prohibition of atomic warfare. We hope that the people throughout China heartily respond to this call, that while the "May 1" Labor Day is being celebrated a campaign for signing a petition which calls for the prohibition of atomic warfare be launched, and that branches of this Council be set up in all strategic cities and towns for the purpose of directing various activities toward safeguarding world peace.

The written appeal of the Peace-Supporting Organization of the World read as follows:

We demand that the use of atomic weapons as an instrument for large scale destruction of the people be prohibited unconditionally and that rigid international control be established with a view to insuring the implementation of this decision. Any government which first resorts to the use of atomic weapons for dealing with any other state shall be regarded by us as war criminals.

We hereby call upon the peoples of the world to affix their signatures on this written appeal.

* * *

I think this should be of interest to your readers abroad.

E. C. CHIANG

Nanking
May 3, 1950

AID TO UNEMPLOYED

To the Editor:

A couple of weeks ago it was reported that 150,000 Shanghai workers are unemployed. The Shanghai General Trade Union is calling for help.

As we know, the workers belong to the leading class in the people's state. Their standing today cannot be compared with their former position under the KMT regime. During recent years they have suffered greviously. They have played an important role in the struggle against imperialism. In the present difficult times they are still having a hard time to keep the wolf from the door.

We, the teachers of this school, cannot stand by and see them starve. We have, therefore, voluntarily given either one or two days' pay to help them. Considering them as our real brothers, we have shown the fraternity of the same class and taken their sufferings as our own. What is far better, this campaign has since then spread throughout the city. Recently, every "hsueh hsi" group of our teachers, which are well-organized in our school, has challenged the others in determination to fulfill this great task.

LIU TSEH-WU

Chuichow
May 6, 1950

EX-PROSTITUTES

To the Editor:

I take particular pleasure in writing to you about the present condition of the members of the Peking Women's Production and Education Institute. These members are no other than the former despised and downtrodden prostitutes of Peking.

There are about 1,300 members in the institute. After four months of their new life the girls have shown tremendous improvement, both in health and in political consciousness. The former downtrodden creatures who had already abandoned themselves to their fates, are now and forever independent working people.

Formerly, many of them dreamed hourly of the day when they might be married as concubines to some influential man and live a comfortable life. But today they think differently. It's a shameless thing to be a mere parasite and it is a sin to look down upon labor and laborers. Furthermore, they have begun to understand the real meaning of free marriage and monogamy, expecting to marry honest and industrious men, to lead a glorious life of labor instead of eating the bread of idleness.

By March 28 about 700 girls had already left the institute. Before a girl can leave it is required that she furnish the institute with guarantees warranting that: 1) she leaves for the sole purpose of participating in production or managing household affairs; 2) on leaving the institute she will never go to the brothels in any other place or engage in secret prostitution; 3) guarantee is given that she will enjoy full freedom of marriage in accordance with the government's Marriage Law. Besides this, the member who is permitted to leave the institute must apply for registration on a domicile list by producing her permission certificate, so the local government can, at any time, investigate the fulfillment of the points of the girl's guarantee.

Of the total 700 members who have left, about 326 have got married. Their husbands are workers and peasants and it would be interesting to know the condition of the married lives of all of them. For instance, Chang Tsui-hsi married a bowl-repairer who leads a hard life. However, they are getting on very amicably. Once when she was doing the cooking her husband added a bit more salt and she rebuked him a little: "Not so much. We have to be economical." When her husband wanted to help her with the cooking she flatly refused, saying that she was enough of a new woman to

(Continued on Page 213)

THE CHINA WEEKLY REVIEW

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Vol. 117 Shanghai, Saturday, May 20, 1950 No. 12

LOSS OF A FRIEND

CHINA lost one of her staunchest foreign friends when Agnes Smedley died in London on May 6. For 12 of her 23 years spent abroad as a foreign correspondent Miss Smedley lived in China, much of the time in the field with regular troops and guerilla forces.

She was one of the first foreign writers to appreciate and understand the Chinese people's struggle for liberation from feudalism and Kuomintang oppression. Her articles and books about China constitute a record of this struggle.

As one Chinese friend remarked, there were a number of American and other foreign writers who initially wrote about and supported China's struggle for liberation. However, Miss Smedley was one of the very few who refused to allow herself to get caught up in the hysteria of the cold war. She remained a firm supporter of the Chinese people's movement until her death.

Her staunch and unflagging belief in the Chinese people may partially be explained by her own origin, which was humble. The daughter of a midwest American teamster, she supported herself and her family for a time by a series of unskilled jobs. At one period she labored as a migrant worker, following the crops in season across the country.

Another explanation was her indomitable spirit. Nobody could scare her. Just last year General MacArthur, in one of his periodic "exposés," tried to pin the red label on her claiming that she had been a spy for the Soviet Union. She retaliated with a public demand that he put up or shut up, threatening him with a libel suit in the American courts. MacArthur finally shut up and the American government eventually issued a retraction, although it did its best to weasel out of what had become an extremely embarrassing situation.

The high regard in which the Chinese people held Miss Smedley has been evidenced in the short period since news of her death was received here by the flood of tributes from Chinese of all walks of life. Telegrams of condolence have been dispatched by most of the country's leading figures, while the press has been filled with stories of her life and her fight for China's cause. Half of last Sunday's edition of the Peking *People's Daily* literature and arts supplement was taken up with tributes to her memory.

These statements, in addition to expressing the Chinese people's tribute to a true friend of this country, give the lie to all who claim—as so many have in recent months—that the Chinese people have become anti-foreign in general and anti-American in particular. The Chinese people, like the people anywhere, welcome and remember their friends, while they turn on their enemies, be they foreign imperialists or native oppressors.

CHENNAULT'S CASE

GENERAL Chennault last week lost another round in his battle to obtain possession of the Hongkong assets of CNAC and CATC when the colony's full court dismissed his appeal against an earlier ruling. However, the question is still not settled and Chennault may be expected to make a further appeal. Meanwhile, all this legal skirmishing results mainly in denying the Chinese government use of the bulk of the airplanes and other equipment of the country's two major airlines.

The personnel of China National Aviation Corporation and Central Air Transport Corporation, it will be recalled, severed connections with the KMT some months ago and declared allegiance to the people's government. However, before the planes and other equipment of the two companies, which were largely concentrated in Hongkong, could be returned to the China mainland, General Chennault announced that he had "purchased" the two airlines from the Kuomintang and filed claim in the Hongkong courts for the assets of the two companies.

Chennault lost out in the first hearing when the court refused to entertain his claim. He then appealed against this ruling. This appeal has also been dismissed.

However, the people's government cannot yet take possession of its property since King George, by an Order in Council issued on May 10—just three days before the Hongkong court dismissed Chennault's appeal—empowered the Hongkong government with authority to withhold the property from the people's government for a further 21 days in order to give Chennault a chance to file a second appeal.

The way is now open for Chennault to ask the Hongkong supreme court for permission to take the case to the British Privy Council in London. If such a request is granted, the proceedings presumably will be moved to London and another few months may pass before there is a final decision.

While it is not the purpose of this editorial to discuss the methods of British legal procedure, it does seem to us that this matter is being dragged out for a much longer time than it merits, particularly since this is a case in which time is an especially important factor.

Although time may be a consideration to Chennault, it is doubly so to the people's government. Knowledge of this fact has led some observers to believe that Chennault will do his best to prolong the litigation, even though the two adverse decisions already handed down by Hongkong's courts have certainly shortened the odds on his gaining eventual possession of the disputed property.

While the reason or reasons for Chennault's claim cannot be ascertained at this time, there are two particularly likely possibilities. Perhaps he views it all as purely a "business" deal and the motive therefore is merely one of profit. On the other hand, it may be "political" in that his claim is designed to keep the airlines' assets out of the hands of the people's government, the legal and physical successor to the defunct and discredited Kuomintang regime.

This second possibility would appear enhanced in view of the fact that some of his supporters and well wishers in the present case have privately claimed that the general is not primarily interested in the material considerations of the case, but rather feels himself a champion in "democracy's fight against communism." His motivating desire, it is thus explained, is to deny the Chinese people's government the use of the planes.

Having won the first two rounds in court, the continuance of litigation is resulting primarily in preventing the people's government from obtaining possession of the planes and the other airline equipment at a time when they could be put to extremely good use in China.

Further, the longer the matter is dragged out in the British courts, the more the planes tend to deteriorate, the more new parts and the more repair work will be required to make them serviceable. A number of the planes have already been destroyed or extensively damaged by a saboteur's bomb.

Thus, as the days slip by, the loss to the people's government grows. Even if Chennault is finally and permanently thrown out of court, he—and the Kuomintang—will still have succeeded in some measure through the delay and resultant losses caused the Chinese people.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION VICTORY

LAST month a California court ruled that the state's law forbidding aliens to own land was illegal. The basis upon which the court handed down its decision was of particular interest since it held that the law violated the United Nations Charter.

The court reasoned that since the United States was a member of the UN and a signatory to the latter's principles, the US government had in effect signed a treaty with the United Nations. The US Constitution, the court pointed out, provides that treaties signed by the federal government take precedence over state laws. Therefore, the court held, any US state law which violates a provision of the UN Charter is unconstitutional.

In addition to the fact that this appears to be the first time that a United Nations covenant has been cited by an American court as grounds for a ruling against an internal law, this decision is important for a number of other reasons.

First, it removes an unfair and unjustified limitation upon the freedom of the state's alien population, which numbers some 350,000 persons, a large number of whom are Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos and other Asiatics. Further, it indicates that the progressive forces which, among other things, are struggling for an end of racial discrimination in America, are meeting with some success in this field.

The significance of this point can be better appreciated when it is realized that, with the exception of the "deep south" where discrimination against and oppression of the native born Negro continues almost unabated, California has had one of the worst records of inter-racial relationship. Discrimination against the foreigner, particularly the Asiatic, has long been practiced on the American west coast.

This move by a California court, coming shortly after a similar step taken by the city of Portland, Oregon, which has a municipal ordinance making racial discrimination punishable by fine and imprisonment, is a good one and will, we hope, be followed by other anti-discrimination victories.

25 Years Ago In *The China Weekly Review*

May Day in Canton

May 16, 1925

The city of Canton, for the first time in its annals, or perhaps for the first time in the history of the Republic of China, saw on May Day, 1925, a gigantic demonstration of farmers for more political rights. When the great mass of country people behind the first convention of the Farmers League, under the auspices of the Kuomintang, marched at the May Day Parade in Canton, May 1, with the long line of labor unions supporting the Second National Conference of Chinese Labor, now holding its sessions in this Southern Capital, they presented a tangible manifestation as well as a belief that ultimately the labor and the agricultural interest of China must be reckoned with in her future welfare and progress.

From "Farmers and Workers in Canton" by H. W.

Hainan Students Protest

Students from the island of Hainan attending schools in Canton, upon hearing that the militarists in their home district have proposed to contract for an American loan and offer forest and mining concessions as security, met last Sunday, and decided to lodge a protest against the proposed loan.

10 Years Ago In *The China Weekly Review*

Inflation and Profits

May 18, 1940

On May 3, the day after the new drop in the exchange value of the Chinese dollar, the SMC issued another of its familiar broadsides: "The Council gives notice . . . that measures will be taken against any person who exploits fluctuations in the exchange value of the dollar in order to increase their prices in an unjustified manner."

Meanwhile prices soared—on stocks purchased by dealers before the new decline. Increases as high as 50 percent are reported.

Aggression's High Moral Purpose

J. W. T. Mason, who spent many years investigating Buddhism in Japan, is convinced that Japan's "expansion program" for north China will benefit the people generally. Mr. and Mrs. Mason returned to Tokyo last week from a trip to Peiping where Mr. Mason met Gen. Hayao Tada. He said that it was essential "for one to have an understanding of the character of Gen. Tada, in order to appreciate Japan's objectives in that region." Mr. Mason said that Gen. Tada was deeply interested in the spiritual problems of the Chinese people; in fact he was of the opinion that Gen. Tada should be called a "spiritual philosopher as well as a soldier and administrator."

"K'ai Hui" at Sun Yat-sen

At the university's first all-college conference, teachers and students joined in free and frank discussion and felt they had learned their first lesson in New Democracy.

ON the afternoon of April 28 the Law School of National Sun Yat-sen University in Canton presented a lively and unusual scene. To its elegant, spacious lecture hall, grey-haired, bespectacled teachers and bright-eyed young students were flocking.

Their aim: to devise ways and means for the betterment of college education, especially political education.

For the first time since its establishment 26 years ago, the university held a conference attended by not only deans and department heads but also by representatives of all the teachers and students.

As pointed out by Wang Yueh, dean of education, such a conference was simply inconceivable under the KMT regime. While the reactionaries were in power, teachers and students could have no say in matters of educational policy. What was to be taught, who was going to teach it and how the teaching was to be done were decided by the masters, and the masters only. If any one ventured on heresies, he would be put behind bars in no time.

With the advent of New Democracy in China, the reorientation of education is inevitable. Since China is changing from a semi-feudal, semi-colonial country to an independent, democratic one, the old educational policy aiming at the training of cringing slaves for the ruling class has to be scrapped.

In order to serve the people, education is to be geared not with the interests of the landlords, the bureaucratic capitalists and the taipans and compradores but with the actual needs of the workers and peasants. And since the professors are the ones who do the teaching and the students the ones receiving the education, the opinions of both must be sought.

An indication of the tremendous enthusiasm of both teachers and students over the conference was evidenced by the way they responded to the call for helpful suggestions. For seven days letters poured into the secretariat, causing the staff to work feverishly day and night. Altogether more than 200 proposals were made, ranging from grandiose schemes for sweeping reform to requests for free bus tickets for needy teachers.

Four Main Questions

To the representatives gathered at the conference, four main questions were posed:

1) How to intensify our study of politics?
2) How to simplify and rationalize our curriculum?
3) How to improve our teaching method?
4) How to reform our educational system?

Concerning the first question, the conference decided upon some concrete measures. In the first place, it was resolved that a centralized leadership is to be set up in the form of a special committee in charge of the political study of the whole university. Secondly, a particularly large amount of time is to be devoted to that course. Every week, nine hours are to be set aside for political study, of which three will be for lectures, three for reading and three for group discussion.

Grading Method

In order to guard against empty talk, the student is to be graded not only according to his theoretical knowledge but also according to how far he puts his expressed ideas into practice. How he does his work, how he expresses his opinion in group discussions, and how he stands in the community will be taken into serious consideration.

His marks are to be awarded not only by the teacher but also by his fellow students, for the latter obviously know him better so far as actual practice is concerned. As Lenin says, Marxism is not a set of dogmas but a guide for action.

With regard to the simplification and rationalization of the curriculum, much had already been done before the conference. In taking such steps we sought not only to remove the harmful subjects and overlapping courses but also to concentrate on and expand the important, useful ones. Besides the abolition of reactionary lessons such as the KMT party doctrine and the old laws, we have added to our curriculum new courses like political economy, which is to be distinguished from the bourgeois economics, and dialectical and historical materialism.

With a view to making our lessons effective weapons in our struggle for a better society and a better livelihood, our language and literature departments emphasize composition, translation and news reporting; our College of Science stresses applied sciences as against mere theoretical study; and our College of Agriculture sees to it that the students do not rest satisfied with memorizing textbooks but try to make themselves serviceable to the Chinese, especially Cantonese, peasants.

Over the question whether every university student should be required to learn one foreign language, the debate was stormy. Those who cherished liberal education insisted that for every seeker of truth a working knowledge of one foreign language is indispensable, but their opponents objected to saddling the Chinese youths with such an unnecessary burden.

They did not deny, of course, the advantage of having such a knowledge, but they pointed out that the future university students would no longer be the privileged scions of the leisured classes but the sons and daughters of workers and peasants and so would not be able to afford spending years to get just a smattering of English or Russian.

Instead, they proposed a large-scale translation project, sponsored by the people's government. Foreign languages, they held, should still be taught in the university, but only as elective subjects.

Suggestions for Teachers

The betterment of our teaching method was the most interesting topic on the agenda and brought forth the greatest number of suggestions. The college education in the past, it was pointed out, was of but doubtful value, because the teaching was ill-planned and ill-done.

The best evidence of the sloppy work on the part of the teachers was that in most courses the textbooks had never been finished. Moreover, many teachers taught as they pleased, failing to take into consideration the ability of the students to understand and digest the lessons.

Another serious drawback was that the teachers were often mere echoes of western theorists, whose ideas could hardly fit into the realities of China. When a professor talked about farming, more often than not he would expatiate on chemical insecticides and tractors and combines, few of which were available in China. Instead of such day-dreaming, he would have done far better to have gone ahead and experimented on native materials and native soil.

In order to increase the efficiency of teaching, the conference emphasized the great importance on the part of teachers of careful planning, conscientious execution of the plan and a thorough scrutiny of one's work after it is done. Before school begins, each teacher is required to submit a plan detailing his material, his viewpoint and his method of teaching. When the semester comes to an end, he and his students should review the work of the whole term and each hand in a report, presenting their views and making suggestions.

The author of this article is an old contributor to the Review. However, this is the first article which he has been able to write under his own name. Beginning shortly after VJ Day his articles on conditions in South China frequently appeared in the Review under the by-line of Wang Dzoong-yen, a Cantonese romanization similar to his real name. Later, as the KMT pressure against all who dared write of the actual state of affairs became increasingly heavy, Mr. Wang was forced to adopt further pseudonyms and for a while wrote under the name of Jefferson Cath. As the KMT regime neared its end, the repression became increasingly severe and Mr. Wang became a less frequent contributor, and finally we lost all touch. It is an encouraging sign and indicative of the new times that Mr. Wang Tsung-yen is now able to resume contributing to these columns—and, for the first time, under his real name.—Editor.

Through such criticism and self-criticism, the teacher will be able to improve his work, because he will be made alive to the needs of the students and try to adapt himself to them.

Students' Attitude

On the other hand, it was also resolved that the students should adopt a correct attitude toward their lessons. After the liberation of Canton, the students in this university were most active in political drives. In response to the call of the people's government, they did their utmost to help exterminate underground native banks, suppress secret dealings in Hongkong currency and promote the sale of Victory Bonds. But since things have settled down, they should return to normal work and devote themselves to study.

In the present conference it was decided that in every week four nights should be set apart for study, and only two nights made available for extra-curricular activities. It was also decided that in order to safeguard the health of the students, a 60-hour limit should be set for every week's work, including class attendance, laboratory work, reading and group discussion.

Upon the question of reforming our educational system the conference did not reach any definite conclusions for the simple reason that this is a problem confronting the whole nation and thus should be tackled by all the educators of China.

Two proposals, however, were worthy of note. One was that the credit system patterned after American practice should be abolished and substituted by a definite number of courses, after finishing which the student will be graduated irrespective of the number of years he spent in the university.

Another proposal was that for the candidates of each department only an examination in related subjects will be needed. Thus a student of literature will be examined in Chinese and English but not in mathematics and biology, while for those who want to be veterinary surgeons, history and geometry may perhaps be waived. By thus concentrating on the important subjects, it is believed, students will learn more and better in a short time.

Lesson in Democracy

On April 30 the conference was formally concluded. When the meeting broke up, each representative had a sense of elation. Not that they were satisfied with their achievement, for that was very little. But in the short period of three days they had learned one important thing: democracy.

For the first time in the history of the university, the deans, professors and students sat together, talked together and thrashed out problems together. They like the harmonious atmosphere and the cooperative spirit and they are sure that the university will become a training center for thousands upon thousands of teachers, writers, engineers, doctors and scientific experts who will serve the people with all their heart.

They have learned the first lesson of democracy and they are proud of it.

— *WANG TSUNG-YEN*

A short story

THE KID MANAGER

By Chao Shu-li

Translated by Shih Shan Yang

THE name of the "kid" manager was San Hsi. He was the manager of the village cooperative. There were three reasons for calling him "kid": Firstly, he was young, only 23. Secondly, the small cooperative of the small village consisted of only two people, a manager and a clerk. Thirdly, Wang Chung, the clerk, looked upon him with disdain. To anyone who came to have a talk with him about business he had a stock reply: "Sorry, but I'm not quite sure. I'll have to ask my 'kid' manager about it." And he would make a face, sticking out his tongue.

San Hsi was smart from his childhood, fond of making clever things with his hands. In the neighboring villages as well as his own there was nobody else who was more skilful at knocking together fancifully festooned awnings or making multi-colored paper lanterns in celebration of the New Year or some other festival. What he said on any occasion was always to the point, and he could compose songs impromptu. He could learn any manual skill at a glance so that when there was a shortage of carpenters, masons, or blacksmiths he could serve as a substitute. Hence he was nicknamed "Jack of all trades."

San Hsi's parents were too poor to send him to school when he was a child. When he grew up he was not content to be illiterate and was always asking people to teach him characters. In this way he acquired a fairly large vocabulary. However, the written Chinese language had so many characters that learning it was quite different from learning other things. He found, on counting the characters he recognized, that by asking people here and there he had learned several hundred. Yet if he looked at a book he never found the words he recognized printed together. Very often there were only a few characters on a page which he understood. This was one of the things that irked him beyond endurance.

* * *

IT was just three days after San Hsi joined the Communist Party that he became manager of the village cooperative. The village was a very small one, so there were only four party members making up one small group which was affiliated with the branch in the larger administrative village.

In August the village held a struggle meeting against Chang T'ai, former manager of the village cooperative. Now Chang T'ai had made his fortune through usury. Up to the War of Resistance against Japan he had owned a small grocery in the village—that is to say it was a grocery in name. Anything the villagers really needed was not likely to be had at his store. The prices were 50 percent higher than those at the market and he had few customers.

As a matter of fact he did not in the least expect to make any profit from the business. It was by extending loans that he made money. Annually, after the summer and autumn harvests and at the end of the year all the poor people in the village had to call at his store to pay him interest on their loans. Chatting together the villagers all agreed: "It is all through that small grocery that we've come to be so poor. We've gradually handed over all our properties to that man."

Shortly after the opening of the War of Resistance the usurer found conditions unfavorable and immediately adopted a closedown policy, calling in all debts but refusing to make new loans. In a few months all the recoverable loans had been collected, and by the time rental and interest reduction was carried out, in 1942, only a few bad debts were still outstanding. Chang T'ai declared that he excused his debtors both principal and interest, thereby extending a seeming kindness to the poverty stricken villagers. Some people even thought he was progressive, and he was made manager of the village cooperative.

During his tenure as manager Chang T'ai held more shares in the cooperative than all the villagers put together. It almost seemed as if the business were owned by him. He chose lucrative goods to deal in and ignored the needs of the villagers. It was just as hard to find the things they wanted at the cooperative as it had been at the grocery before.

For quite a few years the community was dissatisfied with Chang T'ai's profiteering, but it was not until last August that his racket was exposed. Upon this development, San Hsi became so excited that he was sleepless for nights and busied himself interviewing cadres, visiting people, encouraging this or that family, collecting material and evidence, arguing with dissidents and shouting slogans. Every day found him endeavoring to spark the struggle, and there was not a single meeting which he did not attend.

After Chang T'ai had been found guilty and was removed from office, the leader of the small Communist group reported San Hsi's enthusiastic activities to the village branch. Thereupon the leader was sent to ask the young man to join the party.

Soon after their conversation began San Hsi said, "I've already joined the party, haven't I?" This led the group leader to think that someone else must have initiated him, and he asked: "Who talked the matter over with you?"

"Haven't I taken part in the struggle against Chang T'ai?" San Hsi replied.

"How can taking part in the struggle against Chang T'ai be regarded as joining the party?" questioned the leader.

San Hsi said, "Isn't giving control to the people a communistic idea? Isn't acting according to communistic ideas the same thing as joining the party?"

On hearing this the leader saw how San Hsi's misunderstanding arose and he explained to him the way a new member was initiated into the party. Then he asked San Hsi whether he wished to join or not.

"Will I join the party?" said San Hsi, "You bet I will. Now that I've taken part in such a struggle, how can I possibly not join the party?"

* * *

FROM the time San Hsi participated in the struggle the Communist Party came to think highly of him, and people in general grew to respect him also. Now that Chang T'ai had been dismissed a new manager had to be elected. On the evening before, people discussed the coming election, and almost everyone felt that San Hsi was the eligible person for the post.

The next day, as soon as the meeting had been called to order, even before discussion got under way, it seemed as if the matter were already settled. San Hsi was utterly embarrassed and waving his hands shouted: "Nothing doing!" But he could not resist the unanimous opinion of the community.

San Hsi argued: "I can't read."

"Nobody can," answered the villagers.

"My wife and I have to work to earn a living. I simply don't have the time," said San Hsi.

"We'll help you with your productive work," the villagers assured him.

What more could he say? His illiteracy and lack of time were merely excuses. The fact was that San Hsi was afraid that he could not handle Wang Chung, the clerk, who belonged to the Chang T'ai clique. Wang Chung had spent half of his lifetime in the service of the usurer. He had been the clerk in Chang Tai's loan-extending store and had subsequently held the same position in the cooperative throughout Chang Tai's term of office.

In the struggle the villagers had leveled a few charges against Chang Tai's loyal clerk. However, the clerk held no share in the business, which belonged to Chang T'ai. As an employee he had had to serve the interests of his unscrupulous boss and in doing so incurred the displeasure of many people, but he had not shared in the profits. In consideration of these facts, the villagers only demanded that he make a confession and did not confiscate his property. They even continued to employ him as clerk in the cooperative.

Although this was the decision of the villagers, San Hsi found it very difficult to change his opinion of Wang Chung overnight. What was worse, he himself knew nothing about the business and feared that the cunning clerk would take advantage of him.

After his election as manager San His presented his difficulties to the village branch of the party. The cadres told him, "Since the community desires your services you should try to meet the difficulties and set an example to others."

"It's too much for me," replied San Hsi. So the cadres asked him, "Who can you think of who is more capable than you?"

San Hsi thought for a while but no one came to mind. Then he said, "I'm afraid I can't get along with Wang Chung."

"You are free to employ any other person you think fit," the cadres told him. "The manager has the right to do so."

San Hsi thought again but there was no one. In his village so few people could read that there was nobody except Wang Chung fit for anything but farming. So after all he had to work with Wang Chung.

* * *

AFTER San Hsi assumed office Wang Chung did make trouble for him. The conceited clerk could not bring himself to change his ideas, either. In the first place the confession he had made was spurious. He did not realize in the least that he had been nothing but the usurer's running dog for all these years and that it would not pay him to act as Chang Tai's cat's paw now. On the contrary, he continued to think of Chang T'ai as his old boss. To remain in office after his master was finished was plain ingratitude, but to quit would make the villagers think he was a die-hard. Therefore he dared not refuse to work for them, but because of this he was bitterness itself.

Secondly, Wang Chung thought himself tens of thousands of times more efficient than San Hsi, who although a greenhorn, was made manager while he was still only the clerk. To attempt to reconcile himself to such unfair treatment was just too much for the veteran clerk. He was always looking for an opportunity to poke fun at San Hsi's blunders. On the day San Hsi took office he told Wang Chung to make up the accounts for the period Chang T'ai had been manager, so as to make an orderly transfer. To do this would have been as easy as ABC for Wang Chung, but instead of following the routine procedure he pretended to be at a loss and came to San Hsi for instructions constantly. He only took stock of whatever goods San Hsi told him and only balanced such accounts as San Hsi told him to close. However, San Hsi was clever enough to think of all the essential items, and the results were fairly complete.

Finding Wang Chung as difficult to deal with as he expected, San Hsi talked the matter over with the village party branch several times. The cadres advised him to try to persuade and educate the fellow by degrees. But how in heaven's name could he make the arrogant clerk pay any attention to what he said? This question worried San Hsi for quite a few days until he came to realize that only by mastering the details of cooperative management and bookkeeping could he obtain Wang Chung's sincere service. From then on he paid close attention to everything, and in a month or so he had learned a great deal. The pity was that his very limited vocabulary made it necessary for him to depend upon Wang Chung in keeping the accounts.

To learn bookkeeping he would have to ask Wang Chung to teach him, and he felt that such a request would make the fellow all the more supercilious. Hence he made up his mind that, rather than lose face before the conceited clerk, he would try an alternative method, i.e. learn bookkeeping by studying the accounts by himself when Wang Chung wasn't around. As a rule the clerk went home for the night. Every evening, after he had balanced the accounts and counted the money, he locked the door and went home. San Hsi, seeing this as a golden opportunity, told Wang Chung that as the cooperative could not do without a night watchman he, himself, would like to stay there at night to keep guard. So Wang Chung handed over the key to him.

* * *

FROM that time on the young manager studied bookkeeping at the cooperative every night after the clerk had gone home. By watching carefully during the day he was able to make out little by little what each entry in the journal meant. For instance, if the cooperative purchased 125 *catties* of salt during the day, he was able to find out the character for "salt" that night in the journal by first finding the characters for "125 *catties*."

One evening he was practicing writing the character (醬) (*chiang* means "sauce"), on the board. He had covered one half of the board when someone knocked at the door. He opened the door and a woman came in—his wife. "Why have you come here at this time of night?"

"Why on earth do you stay away from home day and night? retorted his wife."

"Don't be troublesome. Go back home. I'm not quite through with my work yet," said San Hsi.

But his wife was like a child and would not listen to him. She just shouted: "No! If you don't go home tonight I'm not going either!"

San Hsi said, smilingly, "I've no time to go home. If you don't want to go, why not stay here for the night?"

This he said in fun, but his wife replied bluntly: "You think I don't dare stay?" With that she lay down on his bed and said peevishly, "I'm staying."

The husband could do nothing except close the door. However, as he had not yet quite learned how to write the character *chiang* (this Chinese character contains 19 strokes —translator) he sat down and began practicing again. He did not go to bed until the character he wrote could bear comparison with that written by Wang Chung.

In six months he had learned almost all the characters commonly used in bookkeeping. Armed with a good knowledge of the business, he often spoke to Wang Chung in a somewhat decisive tone and he gave in to the clerk's opinion on fewer occasions. Wang Chung was a bit put out and began feigning illness. Once, for three days at a stretch he did not show up at the cooperative.

On the fourth day San Hsi went to see Wang Chung. While San Hsi knew only too well that the fellow was just shamming sickness, he said a few words of comfort to him: "Take a good rest, and don't worry. You can leave the affairs at the cooperative to me for the time being."

Finding no trace of anxiety on San Hsi's face Wang Chung was puzzled and said to himself: "Let me pretend to be sick for two weeks. Then we'll see if he can get along without me!"

After he had feigned illness for two full weeks there was still no sign of anxiety on the part of San Hsi, but Wang Chung himself became anxious to know how the "kid" manager kept business going single-handed and went tottering over to the cooperative.

The moment Wang Chung entered the cooperative San Hsi pretended to be very concerned and greeted him with, "Are you better now? I've been so busy I couldn't find time to come and see you." Wang Chung said something to express his thanks and then sat down.

As soon as he had seated himself, Wang Chung thought he'd take a look at the mistakes which San Hsi must have made in keeping the accounts during these two weeks. The journal happened to be close at hand and he opened it. At the same time San Hsi said to him: "Rest for a while. Don't worry."

One glance at the book and Wang Chung was surprised to find that San Hsi had not only misused very few characters but had also made no mistakes in applying the very complicated principles of bookkeeping necessary to record transactions involving goods in exchange for foodstuffs and cash, and purchases and sales on credit. He looked into the rest of the books and found they all contained as few mistakes as the journal. The difference, if any, from his own recording was that the characters were less well written.

Upon this discovery Wang Chung felt he must give up "bargaining" completely. If he continued to give San Hsi trouble, San Hsi would certainly fire him. Once he lost his job it would be very difficult to find another. (There was no salary for the manager but the clerk's was a paid position.)

Wang Chung hesitated for quite a while before he said tentatively, "I'm sorry my illness has caused you so much inconvenience during these two weeks. I think I may as well move in here tomorrow."

But San Hsi continued to seem concerned and answered him, "If you like. But I won't urge you, health is so important."

* * *

FROM then on Wang Chung worked with all his heart. He was as ready to carry out San Hsi's instructions as he had been Chang T'ai's in the past. At the end of each month he would have the balance sheet made up even before San Hsi told him to do so. Finding that the die-hard had at last come around, San Hsi treated him with much greater kindness. Even Wang Chung himself felt it was more satisfactory to work under the present manager than for the usurer.

San Hsi reported how he had transformed Wang Chung to the village branch of the party. At that time the branch was launching a labor emulation campaign, and it put down San Hsi's name on the excellent service roll.

Shanghai Cinema

"The Invisible War Front"

FROM both the content and technique aspect "The Invisible War Front," now showing in Shanghai, is one of the more important movies made since the liberation. The story, dealing with the relentless pursuit of a gang of Kuomintang special agents in a Northeastern city, is a picture with a message as well as a story which moves and is entertaining in the best sense of good film requirements.

The picture, the twenty-first product of the Northeast Film Studio, deals with the efforts of the authorities in an industrial city to track down a gang of secret agents, one of whose number they have but who refuses to talk. This agent, picked up for questioning, is known to have been in the KMT employ for years in different parts of China but insists that he is merely engaged in business. The manhunt for the rest of the gang and their leader is started through the process of checking of the prisoner, Li Tien-min, and his daily contacts.

The story goes on to reveal the slow but methodical process of getting a line on possible leads to their quarry by the head of the Department of Investigation and one of his lieutenants. The trail eventually leads to a young girl in a tire factory who is a special agent. The girl, Tsui Kuo-fang, who is the heroine of the picture, has been sent into the factory to gather statistics for the gang. She is portrayed as an example of many youths who have been and are being used by KMT remnants.

The main theme of the picture deals with Tsui Kuo-fang's struggle to disengage herself from the gang of special agents. It is only after great mental anguish and self-examination that she decides to confess. However she is pictured as only one type of special agent, one who understands the crime she has committed and who actually wants to completely change and work for the people. The two other agents are different. Following Kuo-fang's confession, her chief contact is rounded up and is brought face to face with Li Tien-min, who has steadfastly stuck to his original story. He refuses to recognize the man who confronts him. However, this agent quickly indentifies Li as the gang leader and hastily throws himself upon the well-known government leniency towards those who confess. For this sort, it is made clear that when last-ditch efforts prove to no avail the answer is not simply a smile from the people's government and freedom. For the leader, Li Tien-min, "a fortress of reaction" to the last, there is only one answer, his crime must be paid for.

From the technical side, "The Invisible War Front" is, in the opinion of this reviewer, the best picture seen in China. The camera moves and picks up details. The opening scene showing celebrations of the liberation of this Northeast city are splendid. In a hallway, a stray cat wanders onto the scene. The scenes in the tire factory's office and living quarters give the audience a good picture of everyday life. It is also interesting to note that two of the chief male actors also were co-directors.

There is little to find fault with in the acting. Differences may exist in the opinion of the audience seeing the picture as to which characters are the best. However, there is no doubt that good acting in "The Invisible Warfront" goes a long way in making it the excellent movie it is. To this reviewer, special praise is deserved by the two main people in the film, the girl special agent and the investigator whose task is to round up the gang.

In dealing with movies in Shanghai, one must state that for a long time a good deal of the old movie audience has been conditioned to react only to American movies. Weaned on a diet of Hollywood mediocrities, a great many people in Shanghai have made it a point to stay away from their own movies. For many of them, "The Invisible War Front" should indeed be a revelation.

— *J. S.*

The "New Look" in Liberated Honan

Rid of its bandits, this sprawling Central China province which straddles the Yellow River is free to restore its agriculture and build an industry.

HONAN province has acquired a new look in the year and a half since its liberation. The number of its districts, or *hsien*, has been whittled down from 111 to 86. Twenty-five *hsien* north of the Yellow River have been shifted to Hopeh and Pingyuan provinces, and one *hsien* on the Honan-Anhwei border has been transferred to north Anhwei. Two new *hsien*, Hsichia and Luanchuan, have been established in western Honan, and two old *hsien* in this part of the province, Kwangwu and Szeshui, have been combined into a new *hsien* called Changkao. Honan now counts its population as 29,200,000.

But the new look runs deeper than geography. It extends to industry and agriculture, to public finance, to all phases of government administration. Perhaps the greatest achievement is that, for the first time in recent history, Honan is no longer plagued by bandits.

Industry and commerce are well into the initial rehabilitation period. Forty-eight public and semi-publicly operated enterprises in the province have resumed operations. They include foundries, power plants, coal mines, flour mills, oil pressing factories, weaving mills and cigarette factories. According to one estimate, made after a study of conditions in Kaifeng, Chengchow, Loho, Chowkou, and Shangchiu, 46 percent of the industries and 26 percent of the establishments engaging in commerce are back at their prewar (1937) levels.

New Markets

Honan's industrial products are being widely marketed. The Sinmin cigarette factory in Chengchow, for example, sells its products in Sian, the capital of Shensi province; Tsinan, provincial capital of Shantung; Hsuchow, railway hub of the Tsinpu and Lunghai lines in Kiangsu province; Shangchiu in eastern Honan; and Sinhsiang and Taokow north of the Yellow River in Pingyuan province.

New markets are being found in the Honan countryside, and city-country trade has been boosted by the repair of eight major trunk highways in the province. Rural districts now find it easier to send their native goods to the cities, and city piece goods, salt and other products can flow back to the countryside.

The fundamental policy of the Honan government with regard to business is to strengthen the state economy and render aid to those business establishments which are useful and beneficial to the nation and to the livelihood of the people. Last year, the government invested the equivalent of 45,000,000 catties of wheat in the restoration of industry and commerce, and extended another 39,000,000 catties in farm loans. Special privileges have been given factories which move to Honan from Shanghai and other coastal cities. So far, seven factories have moved to Kaifeng and Chengchow and another eight have sent representatives to look for suitable sites.

In the factories themselves, an encouraging start has been made to institute democratic managements. More than 71,000 of the 152,000 workers in Honan's 12 municipalities have joined labor unions.

Some 174 cooperatives—marketing, consumer and supply—have been set up in Honan by the government to better the lives of the people. To date, they have more than 65,000 members.

Agricultural Recovery

Honan's basic economy is agricultural. Roughly 87 percent of the income in the province comes from agriculture, including farmers' secondary occupations, while income from urban handicrafts and commerce constitutes only 12 percent and that from modern communications, industries and mines less than one percent. The major agricultural products are wheat, cotton, tobacco leaves, peanuts, wood oil, and tussah silk. Owing to successive natural calamities and prolonged warfare, the productivity of these crops has become greatly depressed during the past decades. Tobacco acreage, for example, is down to three-fourths of what it was even as late as 1947.

This year, the government will encourage farmers to plant 3,500,000 *mou* (one *mou* equals one-sixth of an acre) to cotton for an anticipated harvest of 91,000,000 *catties* (one *catty* equals 1.102311 pounds or one-half kilogram). Selected cotton seeds have been planted in Loyang and Chengkao in western Honan and Huaiyang and Shangchiu in eastern Honan, as well as in the former Yellow River flooded area.

To help rehabilitate the tussah silk industry, the government has purchased 9,5000,000 tussah seeds from the Northeast (Manchuria), and distributed them in Nanyang, Nanchao and other places in southwest Honan, the tussah silk producing center.

Last year's peanut harvest of 2,500,000 piculs will be exceeded this year as more ground is being planted to peanuts, and grain production is expected to go up by at least 650,000,000 *catties*.

During the three month period from the end of last December to the end of March around 200,000,000 *catties* of wheat were shipped to Shanghai and to Shantung province from Honan, and another 178,000,000 *catties* were sent to the Northwest and to North China. This constituted about 80 percent of this year's wheat exports, with shipment of the remaining 20 percent scheduled to be completed by the end of April. Even though Honan's grain harvest last year was lower than average, the province was able to produce enough grain to feed not only its own people but famine victims in the neighboring provinces.

Budget Balanced

Financially as well, Honan is making strides. At the year's end its budget was balanced. Further, there was a surplus which was submitted to the Central Plains provisional government of whose administrative area Honan is a part.

Military expenditures in support of the liberation front topped the list of Honan's expenditures, making up 56.12 percent of the total. Next came state investment in industry, commerce and reconstruction, totalling 18.88 percent. The other expenditures were for bandit suppression, 16 percent, and administration, nine percent.

The revenue of the province was obtained as follows: Agricultural tax, 84.81 percent; tax on commerce and industry, 13 percent; and miscellaneous taxes, 2.19 percent. Because of Honan's predominantly agricul-

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tural economy the agricultural tax is still the main one. However, during the KMT regime the farmers had to shoulder almost the entire burden of taxes. Now, a proportionate share is being shifted to the merchants. Over the year commercial tax collections increased gradually until by the end of December they were 3.5 times greater than in January 1949.

According to reports received from various parts of the province, more than 4,000,000 units of Victory Bonds have been purchased by the people of Honan, an overfulfillment of their target by 1.85 percent. As a result, JMP96,400,000,000 worth of currency notes has been recalled from circulation and commodity prices have leveled off or dropped.

Historical Task

Just a little over a year ago, in the spring of 1949, the Second Field Army under General Liu Po-cheng started for the front. The Third Field Army, under General Chen Yi, was stationed in Honan for regrouping, and the Fourth Field Army, under General Lin Piao, was passing through the province on its way to cross the Yangtze river.

The provincial government of Honan supplied these armies with 143,330,000 *catties* of grain, 32,220,000 *catties* of fodder, and 77,600,000 *catties* of firewood. In addition, it mobilized 598 trucks, 130,000 ox carts, 16,116 miscellaneous carts, and 1,780 boats for their use. After the Yangtze crossing, Honan shipped 76,000,000 additional *catties* of grain to bolster the troops and to enable people in the famine areas south of the Yangtze to obtain grain for the spring sowing.

However, when the main forces of the People's Liberation Army left Honan, many defeated, straggling KMT soldiers, local militia remnants, and reactionary "Red Spear" groups in the service of landlord interests remained behind to create disturbances in the rear. To these elements were added Honan's numerous bandits, many of them now in KMT employ.

In past years Honan had become famous for its bandits. It was often referred to as the "bandit lair." During the 1930's it was estimated that the number of bandits at large in the province was equal to the 400,000 soldiers stationed there. The people themselves formed village self-defense societies against the bandits but their efforts were of little avail.

After liberation, the new government military authorities declared that bandit suppression was an "inevitable historical task" and they mobilized 140,000 troops for this purpose. From the beginning of June to the end of February of this year some 139,505 bandits were caught together with their weapons, which included 820 machineguns, 221 big guns of various types, and 159,075 rifles and pistols. At the present time there is no big group of bandits left in the entire province. This is indeed an unprecedented situation in Honan province, and it has laid the foundation for social reform and reconstruction of production.

— *MARK M. LU*

Articles of Interest:

Sino-Soviet Economic Cooperation

With military victory in sight, the People's Republic of China faces the task of economic construction in a country whose industrial development has been held back and commodity and capital reserves depleted by Japanese imperialism and the rule of the corrupt Kuomintang government. The turning of an economically backward, agrarian country into a modern industralized state calls for the use of foreign capital. However, foreign investments in the past have served to lower, not raise the living standards of the people, and to undermine Chinese sovereignty and independence.

Chang Min-yang, writing in the April 14 issue of Shih Chieh Chih Shih (World Culture), describes how three new agreements between China and the Soviet Union represent new China's first step in the employment of foreign capital and launch a new era of Sino-Soviet economic cooperation.

* * *

OF the agreements, which were signed last March 27, Mr. Chang writes, two concern the setting up of joint stock companies for the exploitation of petroleum and non-ferrous metals in Sinkiang, while the other covers the establishment of a Sino-Soviet civil aviation company.

"China's share in the three joint-stock companies," he explains, "consists of land, factory buildings and construction materials, while that of the Soviet Union comprises industrial machinery, mechanical equipment, prospecting apparatus, airplanes and aeronautical equipment."

"Economic cooperation of this character," he points out, "will be of immense help to the development of Sinkiang industry and Sino-Soviet civil aviation." Moreover, the exploitation of Sinkiang's resources should have far-reaching effects on industrial development elsewhere in China.

As to the terms of the agreements, he says, they make the positions of China and the Soviet Union "absolutely equal," with the "shares, products, expenditures and profits shared equally by the two nations" and "leadership of the corporations to be assumed by representatives of the two contracting parties in rotation."

Such provisions, he declares, fulfill the letter and spirit of Article five of the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, which states that China and the Soviet Union agree, on the basis of friendship, equality, and mutual respect for state sovereignty, "to develop and consolidate economic and cultural ties . . . and to render each other every possible economic assistance, and to carry out necessary economic cooperation."

Investments of this character, "aimed at helping the development of China's production," Mr. Chang writes, are new in the history of China, but "if, in the future, other countries are also willing to make investments under such terms they will be welcomed."

However, he recalls, in the past so-called "joint enterprises" between China and foreign countries have in practice been unilateral in character, paving the way for increased foreign control of Chinese affairs and operating for the benefit of foreign and domestic bureaucrats and capitalists, not the interests of the Chinese people.

He cites such agreements as the Sino-American Aviation Agreement of 1946, which he says, gave US military as well as civilian planes the right to land in China; the Sino-American trade pact of 1946, which he declares had carried out what amounted to an "invasion of China" in the name of "friendly commercial cooperation;" and the Sino-American relief agreement of 1947 which he says ceded to a foreign power "supervisory powers and controls." Even UNRRA he charges, came under the influence of American imperialism to "monopolize" the fishery production of China.

Agreements with Britain, he adds, were no better. And he mentions as an illustration the terms of the agreement for joint Sino-British operation of the Kailan coal mines, under which, unless the net profit exceeded £300,000, British investors drew 60 percent and Chinese only 40 percent.

Finally, Mr. Chang discusses the question of why, if the Soviet Union is willing to extend assistance along the lines of mutual benefit, it is not willing to give unconditional aid.

Those who ask this question, he says, do not have sufficient understanding of the meaning of internationalism and do not realize that between the international proletariat aid must be reciprocal in nature. Thus, he explains, "the Soviet Union has extended us this brotherly assistance because of her regard for the interests of the proletariat throughout the world, and because the Chinese revolution is part of the world revolution. She aims, while extending all possible aid to us, to also look after the interests of the proletariat in her own country. We must remember that as exploitation has been eradicated in the socialist Soviet Union, the aid she is giving us is the result of the hard labor of her people, and therefore in return we must share the results of ours. If we demand unconditional assistance from the Soviet Union, that will be tantamount to exploiting the labor of the Soviet citizens. Therefore, the economic cooperation between China and the Soviet Union must be beneficial to both countries. Only upon a foundation of mutual benefit can such cooperation thrive and endure forever."

CHINA AFFAIRS

THE NORTHEAST

Living Standard Raised

IN one of China's oldest liberated areas, the Northeast, production development, price stability and a balanced budget have all been instrumental in raising the living standards of the people, according to recent statistics.

Real wages of workers last year rose by 27 percent and are expected to show a further rise this year. The actual increase in real wages for the first quarter of 1950 was reckoned quite high in that prices of major commodities had dropped by three to six percent. Workers and their families purchase their daily necessities mainly from cooperatives which sell goods to members at lower than market prices.

Another stimulant to the improvement in workers' conditions has been the benefits derived from the labor insurance fund into which the government last year paid an amount equal to 11 percent of the payroll of heavy industrial workers plus nine percent of the payroll of workers engaged in light industry. Practically all workers and their family members are eligible for free medical treatment and other benefits from the labor insurance plan. Along with this, the government has been setting aside huge sums of money for the building of new homes for workers in the Northeast.

End to Unemployment

AS Northeast production continues to mount, a noticeable shortage in manpower has been felt. Unemployment, according to reports from the area, is a thing of the past. A *New China News Agency* story revealed that last year state owned enterprises employed 240,000 more workers than in the previous year. For 1950, it is estimated that an additional 220,000 will be required.

Twenty million peasants have had land distributed to them since 1950 under the government's land reform program. With government assistance, agricultural output has risen year by year and by 1949 the total area of cultivated land had expanded by more than 2,000,000 hectares, the average output per hectare having increased from 750 kilograms in 1947 to 910 kilograms in 1948. Now that state trading companies and cooperatives buy surplus grain direct from the peasants and supply them with industrial goods, exploitation carried out by the middlemen has been greatly cut down. The same quanuity of grain was able to be exchanged for four times the quantity of cloth last year compared with 1946.

Along with the general rise in living standards has been the increase in the number of persons going to school. Although the number of schools open this year far exceeds the 1949 figure, it is still deemed far from enough. Nine thousand workers are now studying in three workers' universities and 12 technical institutes. The total number of primary school students exceeds 3,000,000. More than 80 percent of these come from workers' and peasants' families. More schools will be opened, it is reported, to satisfy the growing demand of the people for education.

The rapid development of state owned enterprises is of special significance, since profits from these units form nearly half of the revenue in the Northeast budget. They have greatly lightened the people's tax burden as well as providing them with increased amounts of consumers goods. On the basis of last year's development, the government is appropriating over 50 percent of its budget for further investment in state enterprises and 42 percent of this will go into industry. Since the Northeast is a heavy industrial base, its speedy development is of great importance to the areas south of the Great Wall.

Industrial Strides

FIGURES on peaceful construction in the Northeast for less than one year indicate the future trend in the rehabilitation and development of China's economy. Up to March of this year, about 90 percent of the puppet Manchukuo plants had resumed production.

The Northeast iron and steel industry, which makes up more than 70 percent of the output of the entire country, is rapidly being rehabilitated, according to a *NCNA* dispatch from Mukden. The story goes on to reveal that Northeast power plants now are generating over 30 percent more power than at the beginning of last year and are capable of basically satisfying the demands of industrial and mining enterprises throughout this heart of industrial China.

The coal industry has outstripped its production target of last year by 24 percent. The production efficiency of each miner has been raised by an average of 0.12 tons per day, compared with the Manchukuo era. Computed on the basis of 100,000 coal miners in the entire Northeast, coal production there will be boosted by 4,000,000 tons a year.

Two of the Northeast's important industries, chemicals and textiles, have shown considerable gains. The number of industrial chemical products now being turned out has been increased from 20 kinds in the first quarter of last year to more than 40 kinds at the end of the year. The textile industry, rehabilitated earlier than other industries in the Northeast, witnessed 60,000 spindles and 1,500 weaving machines put back into production during 1949. Compared with the first quarter of last year, the number of spindles now in production shows an increase of 30 percent while that of weaving machines is marked by a more than 100 percent increase, according to *NCNA*.

At the time of the liberation of all of the Northeast in November, 1948, the number of industries capable of continuing was considered to be extremely small. In April, 1949, about half the number of industries had resumed production. In September, the number was brought up to 65 percent, and in March of this year it was raised to about 90 percent. Although equipment restored in public enterprises has not yet reached the level of Japanese times, production already has exceeded those days.

* * *

THE Northeast Commerce Department recently signed a contract with the East China Petroleum Corporation of the China Oils and Fats Corporation for a supply of 270 tons of gasoline from the Northeast in exchange for industrial products from Shanghai.

This agreement is seen as anticipating a continuous interflow of supplies between the Northeast and Shanghai in view of the high production capacity as well as the increased purchasing power of the people in the Northeast.

KMT "RELIEF"

In Taiwan early this month the Kuomintang announced it would drop several thousand bags of rice to the people in China's food shortage areas.

This week, the New China News Agency, in a report from Foochow, described how the KMT dropped rice one day and bombs the next, killing and injuring scores of people.

"Two Kuomintang American-made planes dropped between 30 and 40 sacks of rice in the western suburbs of Foochow on May 8, together with leaflets saying that this was to relieve the needs of the people of Fukien," the story said. "The people ran for shelter when the planes first same over but were reassured when no bombs exploded.

"On the following morning, three more Kuomintang American-made planes flew over the city. The people at first thought it was a repetition of the previous day's rice dropping expedition and did not immediately take shelter. But the planes dropped 16 bombs in the business section of the city.

"Seventy people were killed and 175 were injured, mostly under the heavily damaged houses... Most of the bombs were time bombs, presumably deliberatly so, to cause the people to relax their vigilance and to inflict the greatest number of casualties."

MILITARY

Taiwan and Tibet

THE People's Revolutionary Military Council of China, in a congratulatory telegram to the liberators of Hainan island, called on the PLA to use the experience of the Hainan campaign and prepare for the liberation of Taiwan and Tibet.

From Nanking it was officially reported that the People's Third Field Army, now under intensive training in preparation for the liberation of Choushan, Kinmen and Taiwan islands, is sending an inspection group to Hainan to learn the lessons of amphibious warfare from their comrades of the Fourth Field Army. The Third Field Army was said to have been greatly inspired and stimulated by the victory of their colleagues on Hainan.

Meanwhile, an *NCNA* story from Foochow stated that KMT soldiers on Kinmen island, opposite Amoy in Fukien province, have been braving the sea and crossing over recently to join the PLA. Stating it is clear that the KMT forces on the island are in a state of panic, the *NCNA* dispatch revealed that in the past two months KMT soldiers have been crossing over from Kinmen.

From Chungking, it has been reported that a movement has been unfolded by the PLA in the Southwest Military Zone to laud model troops in the various units of the army. This step was reported aimed at further boosting morale in preparation for an offensive on Tibet. Conferences have been held in different districts of the provinces of Szechuen, Yunnan, Kweichow and Sikang.

These conferences stressed the fact that the correct leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and the bravery of the PLA troops coupled with the unstinted support of the people, made it possible for the PLA to achieve its mission in the southwest and score its glorious results. In one campaign in the southwest, one PLA contingent took more than 60,000 prisoners and induced over 20,000 Kuomintang troops to revolt. In this campaign, the PLA was reported as having lost less than two percent of its strength. One army unit, which is making active preparations for the liberation of Tibet, intimated that its members were resolved to continue their advance on Tibet and pin a red flag on top of the Himalayas.

USN Flyers Released

TWO American navy airmen, E. C. Bender and W. C. Smith, held prisoner by the PLA since October 19, 1948, were released and sailed from Tsingtao for Hongkong last week.

General Hsu Shih-yu, commander of the Shantung Military District of the PLA of the People's Republic of China, in a statement on the release of the two Americans, said the airmen were taken into custody when they landed near the village of Tayenchia in the Lungshan district of Haiyang county on the Kiaotung Peninsula on suspicion of espionage activities. When they were first questioned by officers of the Shantung military district, they refused to reveal their flight mission.

According to General Hsu's statement, "It was discovered that the plane was an L-5 craft (with markings OYO 2,767), a type which could be used for reconnoitering purposes, carrying charts and various military maps of No. 44 field survey team of the US espionage organization (External Service Department). At the same time it was also discovered that Bender and Smith were on active service in the US armed forces. A decision was therefore made to detain the plane and hold the crew in custody as prisoners of war."

Prior to being released, the two USN airmen admitted they had been reconnoitering over railway construction projects in the area and "at the same time their flight had been to discover what construction projects were under way in Laiyang . . . because they had reports saying that the PLA was maintaining a great number of troops there."

The Week's Business

State-operated trading corporations are helping Shanghai industry weather current hard times through numerous barter arrangements and outright purchases. Result is to bring quotations of industrial raw materials to reasonable level.

* * *

SINCE the beginning of May the turnover of several essential commodities has registered steady increases. The resumption of operations by a number of Shanghai productive enterprises has caused many commodity quotations to assume an upward trend, particularly industrial raw materials and dyestuffs, which had been too low.

The quotation of Crescent caustic soda, for example, was below JMP800,000 per drum two weeks ago, but by May 16 it had risen to JMP1,150,000. Crude rubber, which was sold at JMP14,500,000 per ton on May 8, was quoted at JMP17,000,000 per ton on May 16. Among dyestuffs, the quotation of PVS Ponsol Blue went up from JMP64,000,000 to JMP82,000,000 and MK sulphur black from JMP2,500,000 to JMP2,950,000.

Observers have pointed out that in the past the quotations of these supplies were too low; now, with improved industrial and commercial conditions, it is natural for them to rise, reflecting the increased demand. As things stand, the market prices of caustic soda and other chemicals are approaching their production costs.

The Shanghai Chemical and Industrial Raw Material Corporation has as present an ample stock of supplies to meet the increased demand from various factories. The corporation is now selling large quantities of zinc oxide, sulfur and other industrial raw materials. It averages a daily sale of around 200 drums of caustic soda alone.

Other state-operated trading corporations have also been helping private enterprises to maintain production. Up to April 20, the various private mills in Shanghai had produced 22,700 bales of cotton yarn and 795,800 bolts of cloth and dyed 130,000 bolts of cloth for the Shanghai Cotton, Cotton Yarn and Cotton Cloth Corporation. This organ further bought on a non-contracted basis more than 31,600 bales of cotton yarn and 1,052,700 bolts of cloth from private mills. The Shanghai Department Store, another state-operated enterprise, supplied JMP1,400,000 worth of raw materials to private factories from last June to the end of March of this year. The orders placed by the store with private factories during the same period amounted to JMP8,700,000,000. The Commerical Trust has purchased goods to the value of JMP360,000,000,000, while the Shanghai Food Corporation has placed orders for some 470,000 bags of flour with various private flour mills from January to March this year.

The Shanghai Cotton, Cotton Yarn and Cotton Cloth Corporation recently started to sell raw cotton to local mills in exchange for finished products for the first time since liberation. This move should go a long way in aiding production at local mills. The China Silk Corporation has also adopted the system of bartering raw silk for silk piece goods from local mills to encourage production.

In the financial market a steady trend prevailed, and interest rates on call loans and deposits were further lowered during the week under review. The rate on call loans fell from 6.9 to 3.9 percent per month, that on interbank loans from 3.6 to 1.8 percent per month, and on deposits from one to 0.5 percent per month.

For domestic remittances, the Shanghai Branch of the People's Bank provided services with 50 additional cities in the country as from May 15. Altogether, the People's Bank in Shanghai is now conducting remittance services with a total of 631 cities in the country.

Foreign exchange rates stood unchanged throughout the week at the Bank of China, and the number of transactions in the foreign exchange market showed slight declines as compared with the previous few weeks.

Quotations

Following is a listing of representative commodity prices.

	May 10 JMP	May 17 JMP
Parity unit ...	5,391	5,362
US dollar (TT)	37,000	37,000
20's yarn	5,200,000	5,150,000
42's yarn	7,750,000	7,820,000
12-lb. cloth ...	250,000	250,000
Rice, 1st grade	255,000	255,000
Battleship flour	72,500	72,500
Peanut oil	465,000	422,000
Coal briquette.	20,000	19,000
Kerosene, Kuokwang ..	103,840	103,840
Koo Pan soap .	155,000	155,000

NATIONAL

Production and Prosperity

THE development of production and a prosperous economy have become the primary interests of China's working class and of the whole nation, according to Li Li-san, Minister of Labor in a talk to the first All-China Conference of Labor Bureau Directors in Peking. Li also stated that the labor policy of the government is based on the principle advocated by Mao Tse-tung, "Development of production, bringing about a prosperous economy, taking into account both public and private interests and benefiting both labor and capital." This, Li said, is the basic principle of both economic policy and labor policy of the new democracy.

Referring to private enterprise in China, the Minister of Labor said: "In private enterprises, wealth accumulated by labor is partly the profit for the capitalists who own the enterprises. There, the workers are still exploited, but such exploitation is already limited. Now, the workers have their own organizations—trade unions—to protect their interests. At the same time, the government is the people's government which protects the workers' interests. Various laws to protect them have been and will continue to be promulgated by the government, which will not permit workers to be overexploited."

Li revealed that, generally speaking, the most vital question facing China at present is inadequate production. Increased production in private factories adds to the wealth of the nation and people, while profits for capitalists come after this. He said only when production is improved can the lives of the workers possibly be improved. This was in answer to those people who Li said incorrectly maintain that private enterprise is the concern of the capitalists and production is no concern of the workers thus seeing no reason why workers should work hard for the capitalists. The Labor Minister also pointed out that workers in private enterprises are concerned with production and share half or more than half the responsibility.

Antagonism between labor and capital cannot be wiped out through the adjustment of their relations by the various labor bureaus, according to Li. As long as private capital exists this antagonism will exist. Mediation and arbitration, as is now the vogue, by the labor bureaus is directed towards stabilizing this antagonism. They are needed to lead labor-capital relations along the right path and insure the normal process of production. Antagonisms will only cease to exist when the nation enters socialism, Li stated. However, this will not be arrived at in a short time and therefore, the task of adjusting labor-capital relations by the Ministry of Labor will extend over a considerable period.

Aid for Handicrafts

APPROXIMATELY 20,000,000 handicraft workers of China will soon be granted government assistance to develop, according to a recent decision of the Ministry of Light Industry. A special handicraft supervisory committee, made up of specialists from trade and commerce, textiles, banking and cultural organizations of the government will help to plan and supervise production.

Handicraft workers are regarded as having an important role at this stage of China's reconstruction. In the absence of sufficient machine-made products, they still supply a large part of the daily necessities of life. Various handicrafts form an important side-line for many of the rural communities and about 50,000,000 people are partly dependent upon them for a living.

One of the important features of the supervision of handicraft production is that it will have educational value in that the workers will, for the first time, be organized on a nation-wide scale.

Peking Protest to Hongkong

A PROTEST over recent measures taken by the Hongkong government to restrict the free entry of Chinese nationals into the colony was sent by Vice-Foreign Minister Chang Han-fu to J. C. Hutchison, British Charge d'Affaires ad interim who is now in Peking. On April 28, Hutchison sent a note to the Chinese government stating that effective immediately, Chinese nationals seeking entry into Hongkong would be treated in the same manner as other foreign nationals.

In his reply sent to Hutchison, Vice Minister Chang pointed out that for the past 100 years, Chinese nationals entering Hongkong have never been treated as foreign immigrants and that there is no reason whatsoever for the Hongkong government to treat Chinese nationals in the same manner as other foreign immigrants. The People's Government of China has to regard the measures recently taken by the British authorities in Hongkong for the restriction of Chinese nationals entering Hongkong as an unjustified and unfriendly act, and therefore the protest is lodged in the hope that the British government will take the necessary steps to remove such restriction, Chang stated.

Choushan Liberated

The noose around the KMT was drawn one notch tighter with the announcement of the liberation of Choushan island on May 18. According to a NCNA report, the Third Field Army of the PLA landed on Choushan island on May 17 and liberated Tinghai, the capital. The PLA started to send troops to the island on the afternoon of the sixteenth and the landing was completed the following day. Large quantities of supplies were reported to have been left behind as the KMT scrambled for the temporary safety of Taiwan. The PLA was said to be pushing forward towards other islands in the Choushan Archipelago.

SHANGHAI

Unemployment Relief

A TOTAL of JMP2,164,500,468 has been donated to the Shanghai Unemployed Relief Fund for the more than 150,000 unemployed workers of this city. Contributions came from different quarters throughout the country and according to a *NCNA* report from Peking, some of the workers, in response to an appeal of the Shanghai General Labor Union for the donation of one day's pay, have contributed from three to seven days' wages. Government employees and troops are also saving on their food expenses to help the unemployed. The Shanghai City Government has decided to appropriate JMP1,000,000,000 for emergency relief.

Other cities in the East China Zone responded to the appeal. In Nanking, more than 20 organizations have donated one day's pay and the employees of the China Merchant Steam Navigation Company contributed a total of 1,600 parity units. The workers in Wusih, in spite of their own difficulties, have donated 500 piculs of rice. In Tsingtao, 28,000 workers contributed 6,000 bags of flour. In the Tsing Hua Glass Factory, which was recently moved from Shanghai to Tsingtao, 130 workers contributed both money and flour in addition to one day's wages. Donations were reported coming in from as far off as Foochow and Amoy.

In the Southwest, a joint statement was issued by General Liu Po-cheng, Chairman of the Southwest Military and Political Council, General Ho Lung, Commander-in-chief of the PLA in the Southwest Region, and Teng Shao-ping, Political Commissioner, urging government employees and troops in that region to give strong support to the relief of the unemployed in Shanghai and other cities.

Production Changes

LEADING manufacturers of electrical appliances are reported to have adopted a change in production policy by emphasizing the production of motors and electric generators. In the past, many of these factories concentrated on electric fans. Before the war, the average yearly output of electric fans was more than 100,000. Output dropped during the war, but rose again in the latter part of 1949. One factory turned out more than 45,000 electric fans last year.

Manufacturers have stated that the electric fan export trade was instrumental in netting more foreign exchange than was needed for the import of raw materials. They admitted that this line lacked wide appeal since most of the fans were purchased by the wealthier classes.

Taking into consideration the handicapped condition of industry at present, they voiced their willingness to center production activities on motors and generators. Following heavy KMT bombings of several months ago, electric generators have been needed in a great many local industrial and establishments. Electric motors are an important accessory for the manufacturing industry.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

WESTERN UNION

Franco-German Pool

FIVE years after the surrender of Nazi Germany, French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman announced French intentions of initiating negotiations for the pooling of French and German coal and steel under a common "high authority." Schuman's plan was announced on the eve of "Big Three" Foreign Ministers talks in London. According to reports from London, US Secretary of State Acheson was informed of the decision while he was in Paris for Franco-American bilateral talks prior to going to London.

The essential objectives of the plan, according to the French foreign minister, are the unification of Europe and the settlement of the age-long quarrel between France and Germany. He hoped that the Benelux countries as well as Britain and Italy would come into the pool.

Although the West German government had not indicated its willingness to join, Schuman pointed out that any decision taken by the French government would have to be approved by the three Allied High Commissioners. The French proposal, it was made clear, in no way involved any change in the status of the occupation of Germany.

In order to facilitate development of the plan, Schuman was planning to discuss it with German experts who had been assembled in London during the Foreign Ministers' talks. Meanwhile, West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer thought Franco-German economic cooperation as the best means to secure peace and took it upon himself to invite other countries to join such efforts. Commenting on skeptical judgement of Schuman's plan and the reliability of German promises, the West German chancellor said: "The world must be convinced by action, speeches are of no use."

Enter Cartels

IN plugging his plan the French leader said the proposed Franco-German European coal and steel production pool would result in bigger productivity and lower prices unlike the international cartel objectives of keeping up prices and preserving high profit making. Apparently, East Germany was not convinced for newspapers there described the planned pool as part of the American conspiracy against peace.

For Britain, the Schuman plan could very well leave something to be desired. At the "Big Three" meeting in London, Prime Minister Attlee was quick to welcome the plan as "a notable contribution toward the solution of a major European problem." However, he was non-committal about whether Britain would accept the French invitation to throw her iron and steel interests into a "common continental crucible." The immediate effect of any such pooling would stop the Franco-German steel price war which has been raging recently.

The British government was reported to be "less cordial to the steel industry than the French, German and Belgian governments," and it was considered a distinct possibility that Britain might be unwilling to forego her advantages over the rest of the continent. So far she has found markets for all her exportable steel at prices far above British internal prices and still further above the cut continental export prices. In fact, heretofore Britain has benefited by lower costs of imported steel from the continent without serious injury to her own steel exports.

Replying to a query as to whether his plan meant that the USSR and the Eastern European countries would be invited to participate in the coal and steel merger on a basis which would give them the right to scrutinize the coal and steel industries of other powers taking part, Schuman smilingly retorted that any such privileges would clearly be on the basis of reciprocity. This would mean allowing Western scrutiny of industrial conditions in those countries, Schuman was reported to have testified.

Official American reaction to French-West German amity plans were sympathy and approval as expressed by Dean Acheson in London. In a statement welcoming the plan he stated that its objectives had long been favored by the US government. Acheson also "recognized the significance and far-reaching intent of the French initiative."

For Better Or Worse

SOME sacrifice of national interests was the common theme of Pilgrims' Dinner speeches in London by Dean Acheson, Clement Attlee and House of Lord Opposition Leader, Lord Salisbury. Acheson declared that some sacrifice of "purely national interest will be unavoidable for all" if the Western nations are to secure peace. He also called for the return of West Germany into the company of its Western neighbors "for better or for worse."

Lord Salisbury called for close and constant collaboration of the Western powers and "above all, between the English-speaking peoples." Only in that way, he said, could war be avoided. Apparently his Lordship was glossing over the millions of non-English speaking friends needed to keep the Western Union going. Attlee, on his part, declared that external politics can no longer be separated from internal. For Britain, for better or for worse, the path was looking more like the one America was pursuing.

Eyes on Asia

FOLLOWING separate "cold war" talks between Acheson and Schuman in Paris and then Acheson and Bevin in London, the "Big Three" got together in London. Southeast Asia, in addition to Germany—the problem nation—came up for discussion. The decision on the rapidly deteriorating situation in this part of the world was to "encourage and support the emerging independent nations of Southeast Asia."

The London meeting found the ministers agreed "as to the seriousness of the situation" and the need to inform each other regarding the steps being taken to discharge their respective responsibilities in the area. They also considered the region as a whole economically undeveloped and it was desirable that all the governments in the region should collaborate to intensify measures of development designed to raise the general standard of living.

The Western Union was branching out. With much of the meeting's discussions devoted to the Far East it was becoming clear that an attempt at concerted action was being made by the Western powers, which until recently worked on a basis of strictly separated spheres of responsibility in Asia.

Among the indications pointing to this new trend were: 1) British aid to France by supplying arms and equipment for the Indo-China campaign. 2) The recent US announcement of aid to Indo-China. 3) The State Department announcement that Malaya will be included in the new $64,000,000 aid scheme for southeast Asia to be financed under the ECA program.

However, there was a growing suspicion that the situation, as has already been admitted in Malaya, could not be solved alone by aid grants. The main problem in Malaya is more manpower—men to fight the "guerillas" and technicians for peacetime development, London reports revealed. The conclusion of the "Big Three" meeting was expected to find a detailed list of Anglo-American aid for Asia.

Mobilizing Missionaries

WHILE London saw the laying of plans for material aid to "backward areas," from the Vatican came the proposal for the mobilization of thousands of Catholic missionaries to help the US "point four" program of technical aid to these areas throughout the world.

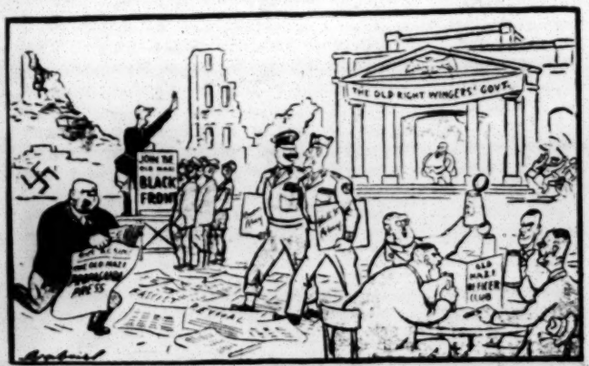
The observer for the Holy See, according to Rome reports, told the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization that the Vatican would give full support to FAO's efforts to apply technical assistance to the program.

Bi-partisan Foreign Policy

TAKING a leaf from the American scene, British bi-partisan foreign policy also has come into existence. It was made quite clear during discussion over the recently approved loan of £3,750,000 to Burma to help her "resist the threat of Communism." This is part of a £6,000,000 Commonwealth loan, the balance of which is being lent by India, Pakistan, Australia and Ceylon.

Opposition comment on the British loan, as presented by Conservative member Richard Bulter in London, fully reflected the spirit of bi-partisanship. Said Butler, "It is an integral part of the approach that should have been made earlier to the problem of southeast Asia as a whole. It is in fact a curtain raiser to further big developments of which we are just seeing the start in the whole realm of southeast Asia. While we have intense uneasiness about the probable effectiveness of the loan, our decision not to oppose it springs from a desire not to take any action which may be misrepresented at a time when the policy of the US is moving toward positive action in the Far East and southeast Asia areas."

The Conservatives also expressed approval of the recent US announcement of military aid to Indo-China. Along with the government, the Conservative opposition extended a welcome to Acheson upon his arrival in England for the "Big Three" conference.



"Bet the Russians haven't got the Eastern Zone back on its feet like we have the Western Zone, eh?"

"To Uncle Sam!"

Two cartoons from the Sydney "Tribune" offer a commentary on the situation regarding the two wartime enemies of the Allied Powers. The lower cartoon depicts the Japanese and the German Nazis looking at the future.

THE PACIFIC

Bastion of the East

While the "Big Three" mulled over increased participation of one-time enemy Germany in the family of "western" nations, across the world Japan's position in the scheme of the West was growing more important. Prime Minister Yoshida has already suggested that Japan should conclude separate peace treaties with those countries prepared to do so.

Yoshida, not given to ready statements without at least some sort of official occupation sanction, said that it only remained for the parties concerned (the US, Britain and other countries) to recognize the formalities of their present relationships by means of peace treaties. He cited the traveling of Japanese officials and businessmen abroad, the existence of trade agreements and American economic aid as evidence of peaceful relations between Japan and "certain countries" which actively desired peace with Japan.

Japanese Trade

A report on Japan's current foreign trade situation shows that trade agreements have been made with 20 nations. The agreements include those with the sterling area, Pakistan, Burma, Thailand, Sweden, the French Union, Finland, West Germany, Argentina, Brazil, South Korea, Uruguay, Chile, Peru, Mexico, the Belgian currency area, Columbia, Venezuela and the Ryukus. Trade talks with Indonesia began in Tokyo on May 15.

In the past, trade talks between a foreign country and Japan were conducted entirely by representatives of General MacArthur's headquarters who were supplied with reference material by the Japanese government. Japanese officials were allowed to express opinions for the first time during the trade negotiations with South Korea last month. Two new agreements are expected to be concluded with the Philippines and Hongkong in the near future. The former "workshop of Asia" was strengthening its future ties.

From Hongkong, a cry of by-gone days has been increasing in business circles. As a result of the conclusion of a US$90,000,000 barter agreement between Thailand and Japan, the markets in Bangkok and other cities are flooded with Japanese goods. This dumping of Japanese wares has adversely affected the colony's trade with Thailand, it was reported.

SCAP Warning

A few days after General MacArthur hinted at banning the Communist Party, his legislation and justice chief, Dr. A. Coppler, served warning against the Japanese Communists. However, Dr. Coppler stated that much wisdom would be required to draw the proper line between genuine, progressive-minded reformers, exercise of liberty and criminal subversive activity. He believed the Japanese government was the "defender of the people's rights."

Meanwhile, the chief cabinet secretary said that he was not in a position to say whether the government was considering the removal of the Communist Party "from under the protection of the law." In London, Japanese Christian leader, Dr. T. Kagowa, declared that communism in Japan was increasing in strength. He also stated that a depression many times worse than in 1931 had set in, and that more than half the trade unions in Japan supported the communists.

Kagawa told a meeting of Presbyterian Church leaders that conditions in the Far East were a struggle between the "Cross of Christ and communism."

Malayan Secrets

Sir Harold Briggs, Director of Anti-Guerilla Operations in Malaya and head of the "War Council", said that a newspaper report which stated that an all-out campaign would be launched early in June was "completely unauthorized." He said he had no intention of revealing his plans and if the report had in any way been accurate it would have amounted to "a grave breach of security."

Meanwhile, Malcolm MacDonald, British High Commissioner-General for southeast Asia, following secret talks in Canberra with Australian Prime Minister Menzies, declared the situation in Malaya and southeast Asia was "very serious indeed" and that it had deteriorated. At the same time, it was reported that Malaya will receive about $5,000,000 from the new US program on economic aid for southeast Asia. Some circles considered this a relatively small amount in view of the critical Malayan situation.

Modest Amount

The US program for southeast Asia totaled around $64,000,000, and according to US Assistant Secretary of States James Webb the over-all recommendations were "modest" and would be implemented at once.

It was believed the funds would be broken down with Indo-China receiving $23,000,000, and Indonesia, Burma and Thailand netting $11,000,000 each. Meanwhile, a military assistance program was in the offing which would be financed from the $75,000,000 fund earmarked for use in the "general area" of China.

Webb also revealed that the State Department was working jointly with ECA to implement the economic and technical assistance recommendations for Indo-China as well as the other states of southeast Asia. He expected this program to get under way quite soon.

EASTERN EUROPE

Tito Looks West

IMPROVEMENT in relations with Italy and Greece on the part of Tito's Yugoslavia was becoming evident. Last month Rome reports revealed that the US, Britain and France had completed a combined effort to bring Yugoslavia and Italy together to settle the future of Trieste. By the end of the month Tito revealed that he was ready to negotiate with Italy over the territory.

In a press conference, Tito stated he wanted the "best possible" relations with Italy, would appoint a minister to Greece and welcomed the "rather remarkable" economic cooperation with Austria. Apparently Tito had discarded all remnants of striking a happy medium between East and West. In reply to a question on whether the US had a long or short term interest in Yugoslavia, the Marshal replied: "If she is interested in loyal economic cooperation, this must be on a long term basis." At the same time, America, through the State Department, had already put her stamp of approval on Tito's offer to improve relations with Italy and Greece.

Belgrade-Rome-Athens

Greek Communists have denounced the formation of an "Athens-Belgrade-Rome" plan for dividing Albania. The Political Bureau of the Greek Communist party has issued a resolution also charging that "a secret agreement has been reached between Tito and the Plastiras government aimed at shedding the blood of the peoples of both countries and against the territorial integrity of Greece." The Politbureau also said that Tito was planning to "hand over to the monarcho-fascists" the Greek children brought to Yugoslavia during the civil war fighting in northern Greece. It also charged that the Americans "are ready to hand over to Tito, Salonika and Preveza (in northern Greece) to strengthen their imperialist bridgehead in the Balkans."

Greek leaders have welcomed Tito's announcement about the restoration of Yugoslavian relations with Greece. The announcement was reported to have made a "most agreeable" impression on the Greek government. The Marshal had said that in view of recent developments in Greece "from now on there will be possibilities for an essential improvement in relations." Yugoslavia had been represented in Athens by a charge d'affaires since 1946.

Bulgarian Protest

While Tito worked his way westward, an official Bulgarian note accused leading Yugoslav personalities in "high position" of having organized "grave crimes, plots and intrigues" in Bulgaria. In evidence, the note referred to the recent Sofia trial of 26 Yugoslavs and Bulgarians who were sentenced for conspiracy to assassinate Soviet Marshal Klement Voroshilov and Bulgarian cabinet ministers.

The Bulgarian note said the trial revealed that the leaders of the Yugoslav regime, with Marshal Tito, Vice-Premier Rankovich and others at the helm, put into practice what was suggested to them by the imperialist camp, and organized a conspiracy to overthrow the Bulgarian government.

Religious Chores Only

Members of Roman Catholic monastic orders in Czechoslovakia are to be assembled in a number of monasteries where they will devote themselves exclusively to their religious tasks. Monasteries which are evacuated will be used by the government-sponsored Catholic Welfare Organization for health institutes, according to the Prague radio.

Earlier events in Czechoslovakia had revealed that many monasteries had been used to shelter hostile agents, spies and, in some cases, murderers. Radio Prague reported: "In some monasteries, weapons and secret broadcasting apparatus were discovered and many monasteries served as bases for espionage and disruptive activities."

FRANCE

Nothing for Nothing

THE French Minister of Information, Pierre-Henri Teitgen in commenting on French-American talks said no political conditions were attached to the military and economic aid which the US has agreed to give to Indo-China. According to Teitgen, the US is only desirous, in the general interest of the peace of the world, to help France protect the independence of Vietnam within the French Union. At the same time, Foreign Minister Robert Schuman told a press conference, after conferring with Dean Acheson, the US had not yet asked France to give up any rights in Indo-China.

The influential *Le Monde* warned against premature French optimism over US aid. The paper said: "The cautious wording of Acheson's statement must be carefully noted. It does not include one element favorable to French policy which is not immediately followed by some reservation limiting the scope of his commitment." Apparently this paper, often noted for reflecting official opinion, felt that French independence of movement in "independent" Vietnam might be affected by American movements. It went on, "Mr. Acheson confirms the American decision to grant economic and military aid, but is careful to add that American help will go to the associate states and France."

Integrating Europe

The French sponsored drive for a "supreme Atlantic peace council" has turned out to be a project for the integrating of all the Western powers. Originally specified as a "peace council" for the Atlantic Pact nations, it now would welcome such neutral countries as Switzerland, Sweden and Austria.

One of the objectives of its members would be "the economic integration of Europe" as ardently wanted by Marshall aid chief, Paul Hoffman, and the coordination of European effort in view of the end of the Marshall aid in the summer of 1952.

LETTERS

(Continued from Page 199)

take up labor. Her husband praised her remarking that she had not been trained in vain in the institute.

Sun Yu-mei once came back to the institute together with her husband to visit her former friends. No sooner had she entered the gate than she knelt down in front of the portrait of Chairman Mao Tze-tung. She said, "I owe all I am to you."

About 371 members have gone back home. Sheng Sui-yun wrote to the institute upon her return home, saying, "The Communist Party has saved me out of a pit of fire. It is fortunate to find that I have been given a portion of land. I promise to reform myself in production."

It is learned that 34 members have joined in government work and others are attending schools for higher studies.

Those who still remain in the institute are mostly without homes or unwilling to get married. The government has provided them with such equipment as weaving machines, stocking knitting machines and threshers in order to teach them how to manage such machinery.

Once these members gain their liberty they cherish it in their hearts as their nearest and dearest possession.

P. Y. WANG

Peking
April 30, 1950

"VOICE OF AMERICA"

To the Editor:

In an attempt to harass progressive Chinese technicians, capitalists and industrialists now abroad, into giving up their intention to return to China, the American imperialists are using their broadcasting station, "The Voice of America," at New York. Almost every day false messages, fabricating distortions of the truth or slanders about the policies of liberated China are broadcast over the air. One of the worst recent misrepresentations concerned the famine situation in China. It was claimed that the serious famine situation in China was wholly caused by the selfishness and maladministration of the new Central People's Government. It was also said that all the people are leading a miserable, dog's life behind the "iron curtain." How ridiculous this is!

One of my colleagues, a well-educated university graduate, was especially interested in listening every day to the messages from the above-mentioned broadcasting station. In our "hsueh hsi" period we frequently were told of what he had heard over the radio the night before. One day he told me in whispers that Japanese troops would land at Shanghai again with the sudden outbreak of the Third World War. I asked him for his views about the outcome of the liberation war, and he told me that the plan for pushing on to liberate Hainan island, Chousan and Taiwan was merely a dream; the People's Liberation Army was exaggerating its strength. However, only a few days ago his talk suddenly changed, as though he had lost confidence, and he began to express the hope that the liberation war would and promptly. We assume that he has received heavy psychological punishment at seeing Hainan island liberated so quickly, in less than three weeks.

I never listen to such groundless rumors and even if there should be a little truth in some, I am full of confidence in our ability to overcome them.

WANG SZE-LIANG

Shanghai
May 15, 1950

Tung Pi-wu's Statement on Relief and Welfare Work—a full text

This report of Tung Pi-wu's is the first major official statement to appear concerning the new Chinese attitude toward foreign relief. It also outlines China's relief and welfare program for the coming year. The speech was made in Peking before the All China Representative Conference of Relief Workers, which established the Chinese People's Relief Association, the new central organ for relief and welfare work throughout China. Tung Pi-wu was chairman of the old China Liberated Areas Relief Association (CLARA). He is vice-chairman of the new association. In 1945 he was the Chinese Communist delegate to the United Nations organizational conference in San Francisco. He is one of the vice-premiers of the Central People's Government and a member of the Central Committee of the CCP.

THIS All-China Representative Conference of Relief Workers has great significance. This is because the conference was convened by the Chinese people and their own government at a time when the entire country has been mainly liberated and complete victory is near. Relief and welfare work is no longer window dressing used by the ruling class to deceive and dull the people, because the Chinese people, under the leadership of Chairman Mao Tze-tung, have overthrown the rule of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism and have set up their own government, thereby holding China's fate in their own hands. Such work is no longer the isolated fight of a few warm-hearted persons but constitutes part of a whole series of activities of the government and the people in their concerted efforts to heal the wounds of war and carry out peaceful construction. Therefore it has new significance and content.

For a long time, under the rule of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism, the Chinese people never passed a day without having to struggle against poverty and calamities. The economic, political and military invasion of China by the capitalist and imperialist countries for more than 100 years broke up the urban and rural economy which originally existed in China and flung the broad masses of handicraftsmen into bankruptcy. The imperialists also entered into collusion with Chinese feudalism, strengthened feudal exploitation of the Chinese people and obstructed the industrialization of China. Under the much heavier feudal exploitation, the broad masses of peasantry in China were thrust deeper and deeper into the mire of ruin and poverty. This constituted the basic factor of the daily diminishing productivity of industry and agriculture and of the penury and suffering of the people throughout the country. The Kuomintang reactionary regime was a regime of calamities: Unlimited exploitation deepened the poverty and hardship of the people, and such man-made calamities unavoidably brought natural calamities in their train. The "calamity" suffered by the Chinese people during the past decades was created precisely by the "calamity" of the Kuomintang reactionary regime. For instance, the areas at present more gravely affected, areas in Hopei, Shantung, North Kiangsu and North Anhwei provinces, are the very areas where the aggressive war of Japanese imperialism and the counter-revolutionary war of American imperialism and Chiang Kai-shek were waged for a comparatively longer period. Who does not know that the Hwai River region was precisely the area flooded after the Yellow River dikes were destroyed? Who does not know that one of the chief causes of the present difficult calamities was the large-scale destruction wrought by the Chiang Kai-shek brigands, both when they attacked the liberated areas and before they fled? It is very clear that the rule of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism was the general source of the poverty and calamities of the Chinese people. The Chinese people could not escape from poverty and calamity as long as these three enemies were not overthrown. Nor would it otherwise be possible to carry out genuine welfare and relief work.

Today, we have fundamentally conquered these three enemies. We have won and have begun to extricate ourselves from our calamities. But this is just the beginning, and they have not been completely overcome because, after going through long years of war, China needs time to heal her war wounds. Food shortage is a war wound. Can we on the basis of self-reliance accomplish the work? We have not the slightest doubt that this work, which has begun, can be accomplished.

Since we, the Chinese people, have conquered, in battle, the troops of our enemy with modern equipment, and liberated ourselves, we are certainly capable of healing our wounds after the war and of building China up in peace.

* * *

LOVERS of peace throughout the world take a deep interest in the work of the Chinese people in healing their war wounds and carrying out their task of peaceful construction, but the imperialists are hostile to all these things. Gloating over others' misfortunes, the imperialists, formerly the chief culprits creating famine, now wish to take advantage of our calamities to conduct venomous propaganda and activities and make use of every means to plot and sabotage.

The American imperialists, headed by Dean Acheson, having helped the Chiang Kai-shek brigands to slaughter several millions of Chinese people suddenly describe themselves as having "traditional friendship" with China, as "friends of the Chinese people," and express concern over the "famine" in China. Acheson conferred with many religious bodies on the "famine" situation in China and means of coping with it.

Why the concern? Because, according to the reports, "the situation in the famine areas in China is very serious" and this is their splendid opportunity "to win back the Chinese people and strike a telling blow" against the Soviet Union; they could "take advantage of the situation to drive a wedge between China and Russia." So they put forward "relief," with conditions attached, saying that it must be "distributed by Americans," and internationally supervised, and be given the "assurance that no obstacle would be put in the way." The method of carrying it out was to be the using of some private organizations as the vanguards to throw open the door for them to filter into China.

It is obvious to everybody that the outcry about "relief" raised by the imperialists is part and parcel of their so-called "Asiatic policy" of attempting to enslave the Asian people. The "humanitarian" cloak of relief cannot disguise the political reality of their trying, by a variety of means, to undermine the people's China.

This is not the first historical instance of the American imperialists' using relief as a means of conducting their reactionary political intrigues. The notorious relief organization run by Herbert Hoover is known to everyone. Whom did this "relief organization" relieve? It allocated large quantities of grain to areas invaded by the German imperial army, supplied a large amount of grain to areas occupied by Vodny, the counter-revolutionary white Russian general, and helped them to attack the youthful USSR. The personnel of the Hoover relief organization, who were at the same time American special agents, carried out the mission of undermining the Soviet Union.

Many representatives present at this conference today can certainly remember the activities of the American imperialist-controlled UNRRA (United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration) in China. Although it was handsomely written in its charter that there was to be no political discrimination in its work, UNRRA, in fact, supported the reactionary government of the brigand Chiang Kai-shek and discriminated against the liberated areas. The China Liberated Areas Relief Association strongly denounced the UNRRA officials for allocating only two percent of all relief material to the vast liberated areas, which suffered most from the Japanese imperialist war of invasion. Practically all the UNRRA relief materials were, according to plan, given to the Chiang Kai-shek brigands, directly or indirectly aiding them to carry out their war against the people.

The American imperialists are now constantly harping on "relieving" the Chinese people, but what are they doing in fact? They are supporting and directing the navy and air force of the Chiang Kai-shek gang in bombing the peaceful cities and people of China, blockading the Chinese ports, attempting to obstruct China's communication with the outside world and undermining the Chinese people in their peaceful construction work. What is particularly noteworthy is that they are still obstructing some rice exporting countries in the South Seas from selling grain to the Chinese people. From all this, can there be any doubt about the objectives of all this American hullaballoo about "famine in China and relief for China?" The Chinese people have long been acquainted with American imperialist plots. Let the American imperialists continue to raise their outcries! The Chinese people who have defeated United States arms will likewise defeat all their political plots, no matter what sort of cloak they put on.

* * *

OUR relief and welfare work is part of a series of huge activities undertaken by our government and the people in concerted efforts to heal our war wounds and carry out peaceful construction. From the overall point of view, the basic work in order to achieve these ends is to liberate Taiwan, consolidate our national defense, eliminate all the

prerogatives of imperialism in China and ensure national independence, carry out the agrarian reform step by step and set free and raise the productive force of the peasants, develop production, create a flourishing economy and turn China from an agricultural into an industrial country. The intensification of production and economy measures and the relief of those needing food and of the unemployed are part of our present urgent work. These two items of work are inter-related and inseparable. We who engage in relief and welfare work must, on the one hand, realize the urgency of this task of ours and devote our efforts to it, while at the same time, we must link this urgent task with the above-mentioned basic tasks. Because, if the basic tasks are not accomplished, there will be no solid foundation for our work.

With regard to relieving those needing food in our relief and welfare work, we can report to you that, by maintaining the principle of self-help, we have checked the spread of food shortage, and are overcoming the seriousness of the food situation. At present the inhabitants of most of the devastated areas have smoothly turned to productive work, and, among the 40,000,000 inhabitants of these areas, 60 percent will soon overcome the deficiency period by means of the organization of production and with a little additional help. Another 20 percent have no need of relief, while those who need immediate relief because they were seriously affected and have either no labor power or too little make up only about 20 percent.

Our method of self-help is to place reliance on the people. This is a method which can be adopted only by a government which is fully and whole-heartedly supported by the broad masses of the people. It involves extremely hard, complicated and minute work. The main method of relieving those in difficulty is for the government to lead the people in mutual assistance and self-help, while at the same time giving all necessary and possible help. According to Vice-Premier Chen Yun's recent report at the Central People's Government Council meeting, the grain allotted directly by the government as immediate relief or to be used in relief work exceeded 750,000 tons, of which nearly 200,000 tons were for immediate relief. The government still plans to give necessary supplementary relief to particular areas where the food situation is specially serious. The government has also transported grain from areas where there is a surplus to food deficiency areas, a large part of which will of course go to areas badly affected. One million and thirty thousand tons of grain will have been transported south of the Great Wall from Manchuria within the year. More than 500,000 tons of grain in other areas are available for transport and adjustment, and, if necessary, the amount of grain to be transported from Manchuria to south of the Great Wall can be further increased. The transport and marshalling of such enormous quantities of grain exclusively by our country's own internal effort is unprecedented in the history of China. In order to send this grain to food deficiency and crop-devastated areas in time, we have also organized a massive transportation network. Apart from making use of our swiftly restored railways, motor roads and waterways, we have also mobilized and organized labor power and primitive transport facilities, thus guaranteeing that a definite quantity of grain can reach the remote areas where there is deficiency.

Our relief work is not merely giving relief. What we regard as most important is organizing and helping the people to engage in production. We have adopted and resolutely carried out, according to plan, a policy of combining relief with production, and of relieving the inhabitants by employing them in work. At the beginning of this year, we unfolded a widespread spring cultivation campaign. Judging from the rainfall of this spring, a bumper wheat harvest is assured this year if nothing unforeseen occurs.

We have carried out, and are carrying out, various projects such as water conservancy, tree planting and increasing the production of agricultural side occupations, with the purpose of not only relieving the affected population now, according to plan, but also preventing future food shortage according to plan.

In the cities, we are also carrying out relief for the unemployed. The All-China Federation of Labor has issued a call for relief for the unemployed workers, and favorable responses are being given to the call by the various local trade unions, factories, institutions, schools and army units. The government will also allot necessary funds for relieving the unemployed workers and, at the same time, will strengthen production, carrying out economies and reduce state expenditure in order to improve our whole finances and economy, which will also facilitate the carrying out of relief work.

All these achievements have proved that the Chinese people, led by their government, are capable of overcoming all difficulties.

* * *

FROM the above analysis, we can see that relief and welfare work in our new democratic country should be relief and welfare work for the masses of the people, carried out under the leadership of the people's government and on the basis of the people helping and saving themselves.

This relief and welfare work is for the masses of the people because it was the masses of the people who were profoundly oppressed in the past by imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism. Among them the most miserably stricken and penurious were the masses of the workers and peasants. Suffering from the wounds of war, the workers and peasants also suffer most from calamities in the countryside and unemployment in the cities. Therefore, the future relief and welfare work of new China must take the masses of the people as their object. Among them the unemployed workers and inhabitants of crop-affected areas should be relieved first.

The relief and welfare work should be on the basis of the people helping and saving themselves because the work of relief and welfare among the masses of the people can be only solved by reliance on the people themselves. No problem can be solved by relying on any relief coming from outside the people. Today, outside of the Chinese people stand the imperialists, feudal landlords, bureaucratic capitalists and the remnant Kuomintang reactionaries. They are the manufacturers of the calamities and poverty of the Chinese people. They are either being struck down or have already been struck down. How can anyone envisage relief and welfare work beneficial to the Chinese people from their hands? We are certain that the Chinese people are able to save and help themselves, and in this matter they have already recorded ineradicable achievements. The most assured, reliable and inexhaustible resources for the relief and welfare of the broad masses of the people can be secured only by organizing the people's own strength to produce, practice economy, work and help each other. After the land reform is carried out throughout the country, if each member of the 400,000,000 of the rural population produces only five kilograms of grain more, there will be 2,000,000 extra tons of unhulled grain in a year. What relief and welfare work can we therefore not do? After healing our war wounds, the great Chinese people will accomplish great relief and welfare work.

The relief and welfare work should be led by the people's government because the people's government relies on the people and at the same time serves the people. It is only the people's government that can mobilize all of the people, organize the people's strength to engage in relief and welfare work and can appropriately and in an overall manner allocate and regulate the human, material and financial power so that there will be no waste, no bias, no misappropriation or untimely use. At the same time, it is only the people's government that can sum up the whole situation, detect and expose all kinds of conspiratorial plots of the enemy and undertake the responsibility for defending the relief and welfare work of the masses of the people. This is the system of democratic centralism which must be adopted in the new democratic country, and the relief and welfare work is no exception.

The relief and welfare work of the new democratic country, under the leadership of the people's government, should draw in both individuals and organizations. It is our responsibility and obligation to cooperate with all individuals and organizations that are engaged in genuine relief and welfare work and invite them to take part in representative conferences of relief workers and relief organizations at the various levels so long as they agree with the principles worked out commonly by us and are willing to work under the leadership of the people's government. The working principles of our national relief and welfare work should be united; the working plan, spheres of work, allocation of personnel, materials and funds should be organically coordinated with each other; publicity work should conform with action. In order to put these points into practice, relief organizations at the various levels should include representative personages of relief and welfare work to constitute consultative conferences and conduct frequent discussions.

Certain relief organizations, which existed hitherto and now need reformation, should be reformed under the leadership of the new national relief association after its formation. Certain relief organizations which only exist in name, or have completely ceased to function as such, or assume a charitable guise should be declared dissolved. Only through such reorganization can the relief and welfare work of the Chinese people steadily progress in complete conformity with the interests of the broad masses of the people.

The relief and welfare work of the new democratic country of course does not refuse but welcomes genuine well-intentioned assistance from international friends. However, China is now victorious and should not remain the same as in the past. Then the Chinese people were under the manifold oppression of the enemy and needed the assistance of international friends to strengthen our influence, to reinforce our strength, to expose the savagery of the enemy and to cause vacillation within the enemy's camp. Now the enemy that oppressed us has been overthrown, and our real international friends who helped the Chinese people in the past are suffering in the imperialist, colonial and semi-colonial countries as great or even greater oppression than that which we suffered in the past. Therefore it is not we but they who now need help. We are grateful for their assistance in the past and now it is our turn to help them.

From now on, our relations with the people of those countries should be that of relieving and helping them instead of asking for relief and help from them. Similarly, in our relations with overseas Chinese, we should change from the idea of asking for the help of overseas Chinese to that of helping them and freeing them from their sufferings. With the Soviet Union and other new democratic countries which are fraternal to us, our relations should be those of mutual

assistance on the basis of equality. We should not merely expect help from them without helping them.

In contrast to all this, there are certain individuals and organizations in the imperialist countries who, with the leave or tacit agreement of their governments, attempt to carry out the plots of Acheson, Lattimore and the like by means of their conditional so-called "aid" and the so-called "representatives" or "delegations" infiltrating into China under this pretext. This is what they meant when they said that they would drive a wedge between China and the Soviet Union, between the people's government and the people of China or between the different sections of the Chinese people. Just think, this kind of "aid" granted by the American imperialist would be accompanied by the airplanes and war vessels with which they aided the Chiang Kai-shek gang. Will the Chinese people accept such insults and tricks? No. We say: the Chinese people will never be enticed.

Owing to the wounds left behind by the reactionary rule and the counter-revolutionary war, the Chinese people, who have already stood up, are facing many difficulties. But these difficulties are those that arise in the course of victory and which occur in the transition of an old system and way to a new one. We are fully confident of overcoming these difficulties and we can forecast that the situation will be fundamentally altered in the course of two or three years. Neither the threats nor inducements of the imperialists can scare or mislead us. Let them completely fail and be utterly disappointed! In the field of relief and welfare work, as in all other fields, the Chinese people will advance firmly and steadily on the road to victory.

—(New China News Agency translation

World Peace and the Atom Bomb

THE peace ballot reprinted below is appearing in Shanghai newspapers as part of a campaign to collect 1,000,000 signatures in support of the Stockholm Peace Appeal.

It calls on residents of Shanghai to support the demands formulated last month at the Stockholm meeting of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress. These demands are: 1) Unconditional prohibition of atomic weapons as instruments for intimidation and mass annihilation; 2) strict international control to ensure enforcement of this decision; 3) Classification as a war criminal of any government which first employs the atomic weapon against the people of another country.

Representatives of peace movements in some 30 countries attended the meeting. Although not a word of the proceedings appeared in Swedish newspapers, their boycott could not stop the movement's spread.

In Peking, the China Committee of the World Congress of the Defenders of Peace issued a call to people throughout China to sign the Stockholm Appeal. Branches of the committee have been formed or are in process of formation in all the major cities, including Shanghai, Dairen, Sian, Tientsin and Kunming. A manifesto in support of the appeal has been issued by China's religious circles and signed by Christian, Buddhist and Moslem religious leaders. A similar manifesto has been published by representatives of 10 Protestant organizations in Northwest China.

Collection of signatures is also underway in France, the United States, Great Britain, Poland, Rumania, Bulgaria, Albania, Mongolia, Cuba, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Japan, North Korea and many countries. By early May, some 4,000,000 North Koreans, about one-third of the population, had signed the appeal.

The peace movement as a whole was becoming stronger. In France, it was reported in the US progressive weekly *National Guardian*, thousands of Peace Partisans assembled in Paris on March 10, 11 and 12 for a "National Assizes" to demand an end to their government's participation in cold and hot wars. The mass convention, which required reception centers in four Paris railroad stations to receive delegates, followed similar Assizes in localities throughout France. A Catholic priest, Abbe Boulier, announced he was collecting money for an international prize for the best psychiatric thesis on "Anti-communism as a Mental Disease."

In Italy, municipal councils of more than 1,000 cities have passed resolutions approving the peace proposals of the World Partisans of Peace.

In the United States, amid war talk by such military spokesmen as General George C. Kenney and Rear Admiral Walter Boone, who voiced the belief that war with Russia "might break out any time," voices for peace were making themselves increasingly heard.

An appeal to President Truman to "take the leadership in halting the arms race" and "toward halting economic warfare among the world's hard-pressed peoples" was made by 158 prominent citizens headed by the noted playwright Robert E. Sherwood and banker-author James P. Warburg.

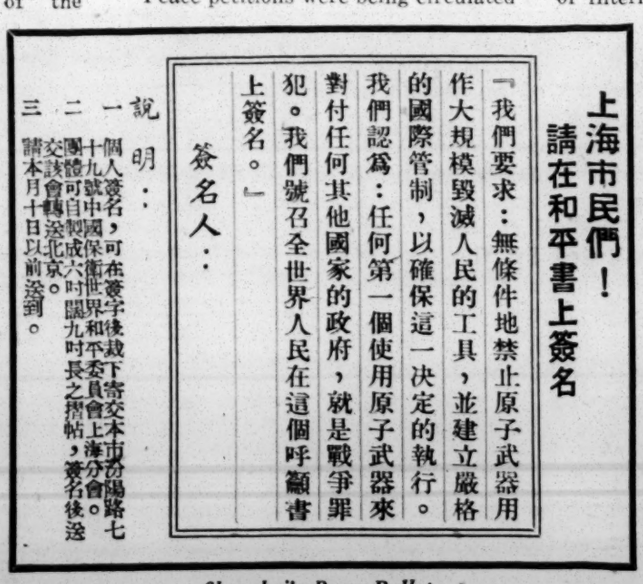
Peace petitions were being circulated all over the country by delegates who had attended the Labor Peace Conference in Chicago last fall. Another peace conference was scheduled to be held in Chicago May 29, 30 and 31 under the auspices of the Committee for Peaceful Alternatives.

The peace movement embraces a wide cross section of the population, including women's groups, students, trade unionists, veterans' organizations, religious bodies and the Progressive Party.

A pacifist group called the Peacemakers, which sent delegates to Washington to conduct peace activities, reported that a number of citizens had refused to pay taxes as a protest against war. The American Friends Service Committee (Quakers) told a discussion group in California: "Start in your own community and reflect your views on peace and the need for an end to the cold war... We must not become futilists."

Even among the conservatives there was a feeling the cold war had gone far enough. "What is needed," wrote magazine publisher David Lawrence in his syndicated newspaper column, "is... to persuade the present secretary [Acheson] that, if there is a real intent to end the cold war, it cannot be done by speechmaking or international propaganda but by a willingness to sit down and examine minutely all phases of the overall situation at the same time and develop some device for the peaceful coexistence of the communistic and capitalistic systems in the two countries most concerned."

In Britain, an atomic scientist, G. O. Jones, voiced sentiments that would be seconded by peace partisans the world over. Like France's Frederic Joliot-Curie, who was dismissed as High Commissioner of Atomic Energy for saying he would not give a particle of his knowledge "for a war against Soviet Russia," Jones declared: "If I, personally, am asked to help in developing a superbomb, I shall say: 'No I am sorry, it is too disgusting.'"



Shanghai's Peace Ballot

The Review's English Lesson CXXXI

Questions and Answers

THIS week, we shall answer some questions submitted some time ago by Miss Y. C. Chen, of Hangchow. We hope Miss Chen will forgive our delay in replying to her interesting letter.

Miss Chen's first question concerns a sentence toward the end of "Reply to an Attack on the China Weekly Review," which appeared in our March 25 issue. The sentence read, **"However, this is one of the first times we have been attacked on the basis of a complete set of falsehoods and unjust insinuations."** She points out that there can be only one "first time," and wonders why the phrase "one of the first times" was used.

Logically, Miss Chen is quite right. As written, the sentence means that the *Review* has been attacked several times, sometimes with reason, sometimes, as in the present instance, unreasonably, and that the writer is taking the unreasonable attacks as a group, or unit, possibly wishing also to suggest that there might be more such attacks in the future. This group of unjust attacks, then can be considered made up of "first times," and this attack is one of them.

But a somewhat clearer idea can be expressed in other ways. If the meaning is that the *Review* has been attacked several times, with the present attack the only unjust and unreasonable one, then the sentence might read, "However, this is the first time we have been attacked . . ." The remainder of the sentence then indicates that there have been other attacks also.

But if there have been many attacks, with only two or three similar to the present one, then the sentence could read, "However, this is one of the few times we have been attacked . . ."

Either of these ways of expressing the thought would avoid the illogicality of many "first times."

Next, Miss Chen wants to know the meaning of the word "pumpkin" in the following sentence, which was included in a report of an article by Howard Fast on the loathing with which the American people looked upon the decision to build a "super atom bomb." The sentence read, **"A whole insane circus of pumpkin scares, spy scares, atom scares and various kindred forms of contrived madness were instituted by the government."** (In order to intimidate the people, to destroy their ability to resist fascism.)

"Pumpkin scares" refers to an incident in the Whitaker Chambers-Alger Hiss controversy which was part of the anti-communism hysteria raging in the United States. Mr. Chambers, who declared he had formerly been a member of the Communist Party, testified before the House Un-American Activities committee that Mr. Hiss had given him confidential and secret material from State Department files. Mr. Hiss denied this. For weeks the two conflicting stories were debated in the press and elsewhere. Finally, Mr. Chambers led government agents to the backyard of his house, where he produced, from a hiding place in a pumpkin, photostated copies of documents he alleged had been given to him by Hiss. The absurdity of this hiding place made the term "pumpkin" symbolic of the current witchhunt in America.

Another phrase from the same article was **"To take the edge off the voices rising."** "To take the edge off" means to make blunt, to reduce the pain or annoyance of, or simply to take away the strength of, as in the sentence, "To eat too many sweets before a meal takes the edge off one's appetite."

Returning to the "Attack" article in the same issue, we are asked about the phrase **"one staff number."** This was a typographical error for "one staff member." While we are at it, we might as well point out again that persons in an organization are "staff members," not "staffs."

Next, we are asked which is correct or in more common use, **"Ministry of Post, Telegraph and Telephone," or "Ministry of Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones."** This would seem to be a matter of preference for the ministry of whatever country is concerned. Since, taken on a national or country-wide basis, in states where the various communications systems are state-owned and operated, there is only one postal system, one telegraph system and one telephone system, it would seem easier to keep the singular form of the noun. Even simpler, although not so explicit, would be "Ministry of Communications," although this might also include railways and highways, for example, considered primarily as communications facilities.

Lastly, we have a query about **"incessant speeches and recent talks"** as against **"recent incessant speeches and talk."** The first version strictly means that the speeches were incessant, although not necessarily recent, while the talks were recent, although not necessarily incessant. The second version means that both speeches and talks were both recent and incessant. It is an awkward construction in any case, and the difference between "speeches" and "talks" seems so slight as hardly to require the use of both nouns. Some other construction, while perhaps not adhering strictly to the original, would be better English; for example, "recent flood of speeches."

We have recently seen certain material in English that violates the "the" rule. It is a difficult rule to acquire, and wrong use of "the" is a difficult habit to break. The example we have in mind is the phrase "the American imperialism." Since there is only one America, it can have only one imperialism at present; so the definite article is not necessary.

上海香港路一一七號美雷登有限公司承印
上海中正東路一六〇號密勒氏評論報發行